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Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 241 | TUESDAY OCTOBER 11, 2011 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Do you support putting Article 12 to a referendum next year?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Ka Roger, 64
Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal of the Communist Party of the Philippines has died of a heart attack.

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Newlywed
Paul McCartney, for the second time in his improbable life, got himself a bride.

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Number of children on kindergarten waitlist dips. PAGE 3
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4 PENDING INITIATIVES ON ARTICLE 12

From 25 pct. to just 'some degree' of indigenous blood

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» Other proposals seek vote to continue or repeal land alienation provision

A committee report on one of four pending legislative initiatives on Article 12 recommends changing the 25 percent or one-quarter blood requirement to "at least some degree" of Chamorro or Carolinian blood or a combination of these, in order to be considered a person of Northern Marianas descent.

"This is better than 25 percent blood quantum requirement," Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Torres was one of those who signed off on the House Natural Resources Committee's report recommending passage of vice speaker Felicidad Ogumoro's (Cov-Saipan) House

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FAST FACTS

Pending initiatives on Article 12 at the 17th Legislature

HOUSE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE 17-3

Amends Article 12, changes definition of Northern Marianas descent, corporation

Author: House vice speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan)

Status: After public hearings, Committee on Natural Resources recommends passage in the form of House Draft 1

HOUSE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE 17-7

Seeks vote to continue or repeal Article 12 (similar to SLI 17-10)

Author: House minority leader Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan)

Status: Under review by Committee on Natural Resources

SENATE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE 17-9

Extends private land lease from only up to 55 years to maximum of 99 years, amends definition of NMD person and corporation

Author: Sen. Luis Crisostimo (Ind-Saipan)

Status: Resources and Economic Development Program Committee just wrapped up public hearings; prepares recommendation report

SENATE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE 17-10

Seeks vote to continue or repeal Article 12

Author: Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota)

Status: Resources and Economic Development Program Committee just wrapped up public hearings; prepares recommendation report

PATRON SAINT
Parishioners carry the image of Nuestra Señora Bithen De Los Remedios outside the Tanapag church for a procession Sunday. Residents of Achugao, Tanapag, Lower Base, As Mahetog, and parts of Capital Hill celebrated their fiesta with a Mass, a procession, and a feast in honor of their patron saint.

See story on Page 9

CLARISSA V. DAVID

SHEFA: Trade scholars are last priority

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Due to priority rankings of students eligible for Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance grants, applicants from the Northern Marianas Trade Institute are not guaranteed financial assistance even if they meet the scholarship requirements, according to administrator Henry Hofschneider Friday.

He said this is because trade institute students are considered a last priority under the SHEFA program.

Hofschneider confirmed receiving a few applications from NMTI students for this fall semester but said that he has yet to review these applicants as his office has yet to finish their review of priority

See SHEFA on Page 4

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Local

TRASH WARRIORS
Manta Ray Band cadets gather for a group picture after a cleanup on Saturday in Koblerville. Led by cadet Capt. Alexander Nario, the band helped the Koblerville community collect trash from Pak Pak Beach all the way to Tottotville. The group is composed of 44 cadets.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hopwood Junior High School's MYWAVE (Marianas Youth Welcomes All Visitors Enthusiastically) Club kicks off the school year with a beach cleanup on Saturday. This year's membership is the largest it has ever been, with over 200 members in the Hopwood chapter alone. The MYWAVE Club works closely with the Marianas Visitors Authority and MTEC to promote tourism and hospitality in the CNMI. Inset, Hopwood Junior High School's MYWAVE Club advisers Jenn Castro, Leandro Medrano, and Tim Williams are joined by Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas, vice principal Epi Cabrera, and newly-elected MYWAVE Club president Mikee Campo, 8th Grade.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Number of children on PSS' kindergarten waitlist dips

» Three schools now have full-day sessions
» Lack of teachers, facilities hamper other schools

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Only 32 of over 100 children remain on the Public School System's kindergarten waitlist, according to the latest data from PSS.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan confirmed yesterday the significant decline in the number of children on the kindergarten waitlist but said she has yet to officially receive the data from schools.

Sablan also declined to comment on the factors behind the drop but pointed out that it is PSS' goal to see all 5-year-olds in school.

"I know that the data shows we have a decline on the wait list…and I want to know how many kids are there so we can help them. Maybe not right now because we lack some facilities, but as soon as I find something, maybe we can accommodate them," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

As of last week, enrollment data show that 548 students are enrolled in PSS' kindergarten program.

The kindergarten program, which accommodates 5-year-old children, is not required by law but the Board of Education implemented it so PSS could serve a greater number of children in the CNMI.

Of the 12 elementary schools on three islands, only three offer full-day sessions for kindergarten this school year—Tanapag, San Vicente, and Rota's Sinapalo elementary schools.

The full-day session is usually from 8am through 3pm each day.

Tanapag Elementary School principal Jessica Barcinas-Taylor said they have 20 kindergarten students in all, using one designated classroom and handled by one teacher. This year, Tanapag has zero children on its waitlist.

San Vicente Elementary School principal Yvonne Pangelinan said they have 48 to 49 kindergarteners. This school year, only three children are on their waitlist.

A staffer at Sinapalo Elementary School told *Saipan Tribune* that they have 25 kindergarteners being handled by two classroom teachers each day from 8am to 2:45pm.

Based on individual checks with public schools, William S. Reyes Elementary has the highest number of children on its waitlist this school year with 10, according to principal Naomi M. Nishimura. WSR has 30 students in the program's two sessions in the morning and afternoon.

Nishimura said they limit the number of kindergarten students each year in order to be able to provide quality instruction. She said WSR has three kindergarten teachers.

Dandan Elementary School has the second highest number on its wait list with nine. It has 43 kindergarteners equally divided for morning and afternoon classes, both handled by one teacher and using one classroom.

San Antonio Elementary School has eight on its waitlist this school year. It has 32 students for half-day sessions in the morning and afternoon. Only one teacher and a classroom are being used for the program.

San Vicente Elementary School principal Yvonne Pangelinan disclosed yesterday that her school has three on their waitlist and that they have 48 to 49 enrollees in the program for a full-day session. Sinapalo Elementary School has two on its waitlist.

Sablan

Besides Tanapag, other schools with no waitlisted kindergarten students include Oleai, Koblerville, Kagman, Garapan, Gregorio T. Camacho, and Tinian elementary schools.

Lack of resources

The PSS' kindergarten program is currently being offered as half-day sessions in many schools due to the lack of teachers and facilities.

The Board of Education approved last year the full-day kindergarten sessions after noting the increasing number of children on the waitlist every year. However, just to build the additional classrooms for this purpose would require some $3 million.

Koblerville Elementary School principal Rizalina Purugganan expressed hope that the full-day classes will happen at her school next year when more classroom teachers are hired.

Although the school has nobody on its waitlist, Purugganan said the 72 that are currently enrolled in the program at their school is "big" and need more teachers and classrooms.

KES conduct four kindergarten sessions each day, with two teachers and two classrooms. She said this year's enrollment is a big jump from last year when they had only two sessions and 40 enrollees. Increasing the number of students and sessions helped KES zero out their wait list.

Garapan Elementary School principal Paulette Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that they have three kindergarten classes for 94 students.

The students receive instruction in half-day sessions handled by two teachers in three classrooms—two of them conducted at the MIHA housing outside the school campus due to the lack of additional space.

GES has zero students on its waitlist but Sablan concedes that their enrollment number is still big. She said that once five more classrooms are built this year, all kindergarten classes will be moved inside the campus.

At Oleai Elementary School, 61 kindergarteners are being accommodated in two classrooms for half-day instruction. To zero out its wait list, the school increased the number of kindergarten sessions it offers.

The following are the each school's kindergarten enrollment: Tanapag, 20; WSR, 30; SAES, 32; Oleai, 61; KES, 72; KagES 54; GES, 94; GTC, 33; DES, 43; TES, 35; SVES, 49; and Sinapalo, 25.

PSS names SAT-10 top achievers

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Public School System honored yesterday four teachers whose classes were the top achievers in the Standard Achievement Test-10 that was administered last school year.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan lauded the outstanding performances of Tinian High School educators Regina Palacios and Martina Diaz, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School teacher Jenny Villagomez, and Koblerville Elementary School's Tricia Del Rosario. All four were awarded certificates of recognition and were honored by the school system and the Board of Education.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that other teachers whose students were also high achievers in last year's SAT-10 will also be recognized to showcase their effective and efficient teaching methods.

Palacios is a mathematics teacher. Her class scored high in 9th grade Algebra during the SAT-10—a staggering 56.6 percent above the national level.

Martina Diaz teaches English 10 World Literature to sophomore students, along with language and spelling. In her first year at Tinian High School, her class took the top spot in the PSS-wide SAT-10. Her class scored 48.1 percentile on language and surpassed the national percentile level for spelling at 59.3.

Villagomez is a sixth grade teacher at GTC and her class aced the SAT-10 scores for language arts in the last three years. Commissioner Sablan said that Villagomez's class scored 78 percentile in the SAT-10, way above the national level.

Del Rosario is a second grade teacher at Koblerville Elementary School, whose class emerged top in technology and breakthroughs at PSS. Del Rosario's class, according to Sablan, has been at the forefront of tapping technology advancements in classroom learning.

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New bill wants statues of NMI persons in US Capitol

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The chairman of the U.S. House Committee on House Administration, Rep. Daniel Lungren (R-CA), has introduced legislation allowing the CNMI and each of the other non-state areas to display a statue of their distinguished citizens in the nation's Capitol.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) was one of the co-sponsors of Lungren's H.R. 3106, introduced on Oct. 5.

HR 3106 allows the District of Columbia, the CNMI, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to display a statue in the Capitol.

Sablan said that each state is currently allowed to place two statues of distinguished citizens in the U.S. Capitol. Absent, however, are statues from non-state areas, such as the CNMI. That may change with the introduction of HR 3106.

The delegates from these six non-state areas asked Lungren to introduce the bill.

"Having the chairman of the Committee of Jurisdiction as the author of the bill bodes well for its eventual passage. Each non-state area will be allowed one statue of 'a deceased person who has been a citizen of the jurisdiction, and illustrious for his or her historic renown or for distinguished civic or military services,'" said Sablan.

The non-state areas are each responsible for the cost of the statue, including design, construction, and transportation.

"H.R. 3106 recognizes that the Northern Marianas is part of the United States. We have contributed and sacrificed for America and want to share our experience and pride, as embodied in one individual, here in our Capitol," Sablan added.

Coast Guard arrives in Tokelau with fresh water

PACIFIC OCEAN—The U. S. Coast Guard is supporting New Zealand's humanitarian relief efforts to assist the residents of the island nation of Tokelau. Approximately 1,500 residents of three islands are receiving about 36,000 gallons of drinking water from the crew of the Coast Guard cutter *Walnut*.

Currently the residents of Tokelau have about seven days of fresh drinking water.

Walnut made a 358-mile transit from American Samoa to Tokelau. This transit took about 30 hours.

"The Coast Guard routinely supports the Pacific island countries in this region during search and rescue cases and fisheries patrols," said Rear Adm. Charles W. Ray, commander Fourteenth Coast Guard District. "Our existing relationships between Pacific island countries are essential to facilitate rapid response during times of need." ***(USCG)***

Coast Guardsmen from Coast Guard cutter *Walnut* work on water pump machines to fill containers with fresh water for a small island nation in the South Pacific suffering from severe drought conditions Oct. 7, 2011. Crews from Coast Guard cutter *Walnut* and New Zealand assessment teams traveled from American Samoa to the island nation of Tokelau for a joint humanitarian relief effort.

U.S. COAST GUARD

DPL no longer has private counsel

Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta said that his department no longer has a legal service contract with Braddock Huesman, and is now using solely the services of the Office of the Attorney General.

"Since Aug. 1, Huesman is no longer with DPL as counsel. The AG's Office assigned Mr. Michael Stanker to help DPL," Babauta told *Saipan Tribune.*

The Department of Public Lands awarded last year a sole-source legal service contract of $54,000 a year to Huesman, a former assistant attorney general who was assigned at DPL.

But Babauta said DPL has to share the services of the assistant attorney general with other government agencies. DPL has yet to say whether it plans to enter into another contract with a private law firm. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

SHEFA

From Page 1

students—mostly college undergraduates.

"We received a few applications from NMTI students but because we have yet to complete the review on all priority students' applications, we may not start reviewing their applications. SHEFA regulation provides that the program funds are intended for priority students and trade scholars rank fourth on the priority list," he said.

Based on SHEFA regulations, financial assistance is awarded on a priority basis, with undergraduates at the top, followed by master's students, online applicants, and NMTI students.

Hofschneider pointed out, though, that any decision to award grants to NMTI scholars will be based on the actual amount that will be disbursed for the whole semester. "If we will have some money left, we may provide awards to eligible NMTI scholars," he told *Saipan Tribune.*

SHEFA received a total of 803 applications for the fall semester; it projects to approve about 520. As of Friday, 448 applications were found eligible for grants, while 113 have been denied.

This fiscal year, SHEFA was allocated $3 million for scholarship awards and $100,000 for operation. Half of the scholarship funds will be disbursed for the fall semester and the other half for the spring semester.

Early this year, a bill was introduced in the House of Representatives appropriating 25 percent of SHEFA funds to the trades institute. The bill, which faces strong opposition from SHEFA, remains pending at the committee level.

BLOOD

From Page 1

Legislative Initiative 17-3 in the form of House Draft 1.

Although he signed off on the committee report, Torres said he would also like to vote on another initiative on the repeal of Article 12, the constitutional provision that restricts ownership of land to people of Northern Marianas descent or NMD.

Two identical initiatives—one by Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and one by House minority leader Joe Guerrero (R-Saipan)—seek a vote on whether to maintain or repeal Article 12.

The fourth one seeks to extend the cap on private land leases from 55 years to 99 years, among other things.

As of yesterday, there's no telling which of these four initiatives will pass the House and the Senate.

Section 805 of the Covenant allows the CNMI to revisit its land alienation restrictions 25 years after the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement in 1986.

That 25-year period will end in 2011, and this is the reason why there's as many as four initiatives seeking to tinker with Article 12.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said that given the many years that have passed since the inception of Article 12, "the administration agrees that it is an opportune time to revisit the issue of determining an NMD by way of the blood quantum."

"While the administration agrees that descendants with less than the 25 percent blood quantum should be afforded the opportunity to inherit and/or own land, the broader issue of repealing Article 12 should be a matter that involves the participation of the stakeholders—the indigenous community," he added.

Redefining NMD

The House Natural Resources Committee said that the land alienation provision of the NMI Constitution should be amended "to state that the restriction shall be subject to amendment only by virtue of an amendment to the Constitution by an initiative voted upon by persons of Northern Marianas descent only."

Rather than repeal the whole Article 12, HLI 17-3 initiative seeks to amend the definition of NMDs.

Palacios' committee acknowledged that many citizens today are worried that their "children's children's children" will no longer be able to own land because they no longer posses at least one-quarter Chamorro or Carolinian blood to be considered an NMD.

"The purpose of this proposed constitutional amendment is to amend the one-quarter requirement to 'at least some degree' of Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian blood or a combination thereof, or an adopted child of a person (removed 100 percent requirement) of Northern Marianas descent if adopted while under the age of 18," the panel said.

The committee said in the event that the individual has less than one-quarter Chamorro or Carolinian blood or a combination of these, the individual claiming to be an NMD shall provide evidence to support that he or she possesses some degree of Chamorro or Carolinian blood or a combination of these, to the Superior Court.

The Superior Court may grant or deny such claim.

If the court finds and agrees that the person in fact possesses at least some degree of Chamorro or Carolinian blood or a combination, the court shall certify that the persons is an NMD.

Once the report is adopted, it goes to the House floor for voting.

If HLI 17-3 is passed by the House and Senate, the initiative will be presented to voters in the next election.

Voters will decide whether having at least some degree of Chamorro or Carolinian blood or a combination, or an adopted child of an NMD if adopted while under 18, can acquire permanent and long-term interest in real property within the CNMI and whether it's in the best interest of the people of the CNMI.

Scrap whole Article 12

House minority leader Joe Guerrero's (R-Saipan) HLI 17-7, which seeks to repeal Article 12, was also recently referred to the House Natural Resources Committee for review.

Guerrero said his initiative is almost identical to that of Senate President Paul Manglona's (Ind-Rota) SLI 17-10, which had already gone through public hearings.

He said if SLI 17-10 passes the Senate and the House, then he will withdraw his HLI 17-7.

"Ending Article 12 is a recognition of the fact that people are now sophisticated, ready to handle the freedom and responsibility of disposing of their privately held property as they see fit. While the people are proud of their tradition and their culture that promotes family and faith over more materialistic concerns, the Legislature finds that Article 12 unreasonably restricts people's freedom," Guerrero's HLI 17-7 says.

Options

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), chairman of the Senate Committee on Resources and Economic Development Programs, said in a separate interview yesterday that the panel is now working on a report on the results of the public hearings they held both on SLI 17-10 and SLI 17-9.

SLI 17-9, introduced by Sen. Luis Crisostimo (Ind-Saipan), seeks to extend the maximum number of years that non-NMD persons can lease lands from 55 years to 99 years.

Just like Ogumoro's HLI 17-3, Crisostimo's SLI 17-9 also seeks to change the definitions of persons of NMD and NMD corporations.

Torres said the public hearings on SLI 17-9 and 17-10 brought out different options other than repealing Article 12, such as amending the definition of NMDs.

The senator said the committee and staff are also doing research on how other islands such as Guam, Hawaii, Palau, American Samoa, and even the Philippines, deal with land issues.

"As chairman of the committee, as of now, I am not confident to say that we will move forward with this right away. There are still other issues like blood quantum and adoption issue," he said.

Lawmakers interviewed yesterday said that if Article 12 is repealed in its entirety, then the changes in the definitions of NMD persons and corporations will also become moot.

Rep. Stanley Torres said he supports a total repeal of Article 12, even though he signed off on a report on another initiative that only seeks to amend the definition of NMD persons and corporations.

"I think I signed off on the report before I saw the minority leader's initiative to repeal Article 12. It's time owners can do whatever they want to do with their property," he said.

Over the last 10 years, the Legislature has debated extensively on the merits of Article 12.

Non-government groups such as the Citizens for Changing Article 12 Inc. have also been helping educate the public on Article 12. CCART12 is educating people on the benefits of repealing Article 12.

CCART12 said repealing Article 12 is about giving landowners a choice and not having the government control that choice.

At the other end of the spectrum are those opposed to repealing Article 12. They argue that Article 12 is not the root cause of economic problems, and to not make political decisions to accommodate foreign investors.

Zoning approves warehouse project, hollow block factory

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The Zoning Board unanimously approved two conditional use applications and one rezoning application during its meeting on Oct. 6.

Board chair Diego Blanco and members Ed Arriola Jr., Alice Igitol, and Joe Limes were present at the meeting to vote on the three applications.

The first application approved was by MEC, LLC to construct an 11,900 square foot warehouse on a lot between Tokcha Avenue, Tupak Street, and Texas Road in Susupe for the wholesale operations of Western Sales Trading Co., which distributes cigarettes, beers, and animal feeds. Resident manager Arnaldo G. Guban represented the company at the meeting.

A Susupe resident who lives near the proposed warehouse said he supports the business but there is also a need for the board to protect the inhabitants in the surrounding area.

Santiago Aguon said he continues to suffer from smoke and noise pollution coming from another warehouse in the area "and I don't want this again to be happening to my house."

According to Aguon, he has complained to the Division of Environmental Quality for five years but "nothing happened."

Aguon said he used to make his own drinking water through reverse osmosis—which he learned from his work at the hospital—but because of the pollution in their area, he is now forced to buy drinking water.

"Don't take my word [for it]. Go inside there and see for yourself, feel for yourself," he addressed the board.

Businessman Joe Ayuyu, who owns the lot, reiterated his support for the application, describing it as a "plus" to the community.

"At a time when the economy of our islands is in pretty bad shape…I would like to encourage the board of directors to approve the project," Ayuyu said.

The board approved the application with the following conditions: provide sufficient landscaping; no parking of cargo containers in premises for more than five days; comply with DEQ requirements for storm water management and air emissions; no use of hazardous chemicals and employ reasonable measures for proper disposal of non-hazardous chemicals; take all possible measure to minimize noise generated from warehouse operations to acceptable level required by OSHA; construction of warehouse not to go beyond 5pm; and applying for sign permit before one is installed.

"I know it's hard to balance things out but I truly believe that the board will impose these conditions on the applicant and we would make sure that they comply with the conditions," said Blanco.

The board also approved the conditional use application of Li Xiang Ming of An Manufacturing to manufacture hollow blocks on a lot along Afetnas Road in San Antonio.

Conditions for the application include landscaping; no parking of heavy equipment, cargo containers, and company vehicles on public right-of-way or along the street at any given time; no parking of cargo containers in the premises beyond five days; surrounding the area with tarpaulins or any materials to contain dust; taking all measures necessary to prevent dust from escaping beyond property line, including watering down the site; employing only five employees who will be limited to use only one forklift and one boom truck; following operating hours from Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm; obtaining a sign permit; and complying with noise level that has yet to be determined by the board.

The board also approved the rezoning of Lot E.A. 883-1, located at the former site of Black Micro Corp. in Kannat Tabla and adjacent to the CMS Quarry, from rural to industrial.

Hindu temple in CK burglarized

The CNMI Hindu Community's Radha Krishna Temple in Chalan Kanoa was burglarized yesterday and about $2,000 in cash from a donation box and a gas cylinder were stolen.

Akhil Mollick, 36, assistant secretary of the CNMI Hindu Community, told *Saipan Tribune* that one of their members discovered the break-in when he went to clean the temple at 10am.

Mollick said police were immediately called.

"We feel very sad as this is the first time to happen with our temple in 12 years," he said.

The donation box, which has never been opened for three years, was inside the temple.

Mollick said the office room was also burglarized, but they don't know yet if items were also stolen.

The CNMI Hindu Community, which has 100 members, has requested the Department of Public Safety to solve the burglary and if possible, include the area during their routine patrol.

The temple is located near the Sister Remedios School. It was built in 2001.

Mollick said he believes that the burglar or burglars used a ladder or simply climbed over the fence as the padlock of the fence was still secure.

He said there were a lot of people at the temple last Thursday because of a festival. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Lawyer says there was never a finding of Hillbroom's paternity

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Barry J. Israel, one of the former lawyers of Junior Larry Hillbroom, says it is factually incorrect to state that DNA testing established Hillbroom as the son of the late tycoon Larry Lee Hillblom.

In a declaration filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI, Israel pointed out that there was never a finding of Hillbroom's paternity in either the probate or guardianship proceedings.

Israel issued the declaration in support of his motion to dismiss Hillbroom's lawsuit against him.

Hillbroom is reportedly one of the four DNA-proven children of the late business tycoon. He is suing Israel for allegedly conspiring to inflate the attorneys' contingency fee when Hillblom's fortune was still undergoing probate proceedings. His complaint states that DNA testing established him as Hillblom's son.

Hillblom died in a plane crash off Anatahan on May 21, 1995. He left an estimated $550 million to $700 million in assets.

In his declaration, Israel argued that an elaborate and complex procedure was devised by the lawyers for Hillbroom's guardians to eliminate potential Hillblom heirs so that only those who met an agreed standard would qualify as heir claimants, entitled to share in a part of the Hillblom fortune.

Israel said the reason for this is that they (counsels), including Keith Waibel, had received tax advice warning that if there were a legal finding of paternity, it was possible the U.S. Internal Revenue Service would attempt to tax income of the qualified heir claimants' trusts as the property of U.S. citizens or residents.

Waibel is the former trustee of Hillbroom's trust JLH (Junior Larry Hillbroom). Hillbroom also named Waibel as co-defendant for negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, fraud, and racketeering activity. Waibel denied the allegations and filed a cross-claim against Israel.

Israel said each of the qualified heir claimants is from an independent country and therefore would not be taxable in the U.S.

Israel said that Hillbroom is a citizen and passport holder of the Republic of Palau.

"A finding by the IRS that the JLH Trust is subject to United States taxation because of a paternity finding would be undesirable," he said.

The lawyer said at the time the JLH Trust was set up the government of Palau did not tax passive earnings, unlike the U.S. government.

As a result, Israel said, any income passed to Hillbroom from the JLH would not be taxed if he had no United States connection.

On the contingency fee issue, Israel said that Waibel in the end agreed that he (Israel) would be paid an additional 8.5 percent contingency on the sale of unliquidated assets for his work and on all funds that came into the JLH "prospectively."

Israel said Hillbroom's complaint falsely claims that the use of the word "prospectively" in the JLH Trust Fee Agreement relates back to the April 15, 1999, date of the agreement, implying that retroactive payments were made on money already received by JLH.

"They know this to be a false claim. As stated, the JLH Trust Fee Agreement was signed on Guam in July or August 2001 by David Lujan. I never did personally sign the agreement. I was in Southeast Asia and Mr. Lujan signed by name on my behalf," he said.

Israel said he, Lujan, and Waibel all understood then and know now that the "prospective" payments were to be made from that date.

Israel said the reason for the agreement being dated April 15, 1999, was simple and obvious: He and Lujan were entering into an agreement with a new entity.

"We were being asked to work on the unliquidated assets," he said.

Israel stressed that the purpose of the 1999 date was only to make clear that the new contingency applied to those unliquidated assets received from the Hillblom estate but not for cash payments on which a fee had already been earned and paid.

"There was no other purpose and I never retroactively received payments on any prior cash distributions," the lawyer said.

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NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS RETIREMENT FUND
WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
GROUP HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE TRUST FUND

FINANCIAL AUDITS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. RF11-005

OPENING DATE: October 11, 2011 CLOSING DATE: November 9, 2011

The Board of Trustees of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund is soliciting sealed proposals to perform a financial audit of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund (NMIRF), Workers' Compensation Commission (WCC), and Group Health and Life Insurance Trust Fund (GHLITF) for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2011 and 2012. To receive the RFP package, you may mail, fax or e-mail your request to:

Richard S. Villagomez, Administrator
Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247 CK
Saipan, MP 96950-1247
Fax No. 670-664-8080
E-mail: administrator01@nmiretirement.com

There will be a pre-proposal conference on Friday, October 14, 2011 at 9:00 am in the Fund Conference Room, Capitol Hill Saipan. Questions regarding the project must be submitted in writing to Richard S. Villagomez, Administrator, Fax No. (670) 664-8080 or emailed to administrator01@nmiretirement.com, no later than October 19, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

/s/ Richard S. Villagomez
Administrator

IMMIGRATION LAW

Bruce L. Mailman
Maya B. Kara

Available services include
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Call for Appointment
(670) 233-0081

Law Offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC
Corner of Beach Road and Cpl.
Derence Jack R., Garapan, Saipan

Experts mentor school administrators, officials on 'balanced leadership'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two experts from the Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning, or McREL, are on island for a two-day professional development training on "balanced leadership" for school leaders and officials.

Greg Cameron and Mel Sussman began their sessions yesterday at the jam-packed Marianas High School cafeteria, with about 50 educators in attendance, mostly school administrators and key staff of the Public School System as well as members of the Board of Education.

On its first day, participants received instruction on various topics focusing on developing a purposeful community and extending knowledge and refining practice.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said yesterday that PSS initiated the balanced leadership seminar over a year ago and continues to provide training not only to school leaders but to all stakeholders of Commonwealth education.

Despite the Commonwealth Cultural Day holiday yesterday, Sablan said that school leaders opted to go ahead with the training.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

McREL's Greg Cameron, standing left, conducts the first-day professional development training on balanced leadership to school administrators and officials of the Public School System yesterday at Marianas High School cafeteria.

Sablan said the two-day seminar will also take up McREL's research that examines the effects of leadership practices on student achievement.

McREL is a research organization best known for analyzing extant research. According to the organization's website, after analyzing studies conducted over a 30-year period, McREL identified 21 leadership responsibilities that are significantly associated with student achievement. They have translated these results into a balanced leadership framework, which describes the knowledge, skills, strategies, and tools leaders need to positively impact student achievement.

"We're here to continue to learn best practices and reflect on the balanced leadership that speaks of the 2011 responsibilities of leaders. This is actually a pre-conference to our statewide professional development. We're bringing together administrators, board members, [and] key staff at central office to continue to learn for our students," Sablan said during break in yesterday's session.

PSS has about 30 school administrators on three islands, of which 19 are principals and the rest are vice principals.

Sablan disclosed that the McREL's balanced leadership seminar "blends and rhymes" with the BOE's effort in putting in place an evaluation system for all personnel.

She described as "the most critical factor" the capability and leadership skills of not only school administrators but the whole community because of the unified goal of achieving success for students.

"We're here for a purpose and the bottom line is we're all trying to improve everyone's ability to oversee the school system so that student performance will be impacted in terms of academic achievement," she said.

According to McREL, "effective leadership means more than simply knowing what to do—it's knowing when, how, and why to do it. Effective leaders understand how to balance pushing for change, while, at the same time, protecting aspects of culture, values, and norms worth preserving."

House panel: CUC loan of over $5M should be approved by law

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A House committee that reviewed a bill requiring the Commonwealth Public Utilities Corp. to approve loans made by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. in excess of $500,000 also recommends that CUC loans of over $5 million "must be approved by law" to prevent multiple reviews.

The eight-member House Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee chaired by Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) recommended passage of House Bill 17-205 as House Substitute 1. Torres is also the author of the bill.

The Legislature has empowered CPUC to regulate CUC, the sole electricity supplier to the CNMI government including all public safety activities, schools and the only hospital.

The House PUTC Committee said approval of loans should rest in the hands of CPUC, which has oversight over CUC.

"The CPUC is the proper body to consider CUC's financial position and analyze the terms of any loan available to CUC. In addition, the Legislature believes that CUC must be enabled to conduct its business without multiple reviews, and a review by both the CPUC and the Legislature would be duplicative and could damage CUC's ability to move forward expeditiously with any loan for which it might qualify," the committee said.

The panel said it agrees with the HB 17-205, HS1's intent to repeal Executive Order 8-9 to reflect that any borrowing CUC wishes to attempt in excess of $500,000 but not exceed $5 million must be approved by CPUC.

In excess of $5 million must be approved by law, the committee said.

The panel added that the enactment of HB 17-205 will strengthen CUC's maintenance programs and stave off short- and long-term mechanical problems and breakdowns.

"This will potentially save CUC hundreds of thousands of dollars in 'emergency' mechanical repairs which will subsequently save CUC customers the extra charges to make these costly repairs," Torres' committee added.

Of the eight House PUTC Committee members, only seven signed off on the committee report. The House has yet to schedule its next session to act on this committee report.

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
2011-CDA-06-RFP

LOAN UNDERWRITER

PROPOSAL DEADLINE EXTENSION

The Commonwealth Development Authority is soliciting competitive proposals from qualified firms, companies, agencies and/or persons to provide the services of a loan underwriter experienced in all aspects of the underwriting process, to provide independent contractual services for the CDA in the implementation of the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) Loan Guaranty and Loan Participation Programs. This procurement is being conducted pursuant to CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 70-30.3, specifically § 70-30.3-235).

The CDA on behalf of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) has applied for State Small Business Credit Initiative funds in the amount of $13,168,350 for the Loan Participation and Loan Guaranty Programs. Programs are subject to CDA and lender criteria as well as SSBCI guidelines.

The purpose of the programs is to provide businesses with high growth and job creation potential that will diversify and strengthen the local economy. It encourages expansion of existing and emerging new industries to expand economic opportunity to all in the community.

The Program targets the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CDA encourages the leveraging of new private investment in the form of fixed asset and working capital investment. The Program provides loan guaranty and participation of up to $5 million to businesses at interest rates and loan maturities that encourage business development and facilitate reinvestment while providing for the recapitalization and growth of fund. The program perpetuates a positive and proactive business climate that encourages the retention and expansion of existing businesses and helps to attract desirable new businesses. The Program objective is to leverage the SSBCI funding ten times (10X) with private financing.

The guidelines and specifications for this RFP may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority, Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950 during normal working hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Holidays, or from the Office of Procurement and Supply in Lower Base or on CDA's website at www.cda.gov.mp. Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope to the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan MP 96950 no later than 10:00 a.m., October 12, 2011. Envelopes must be labeled "2011-CDA-06-RFP".

Respectfully

/s/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Homebound clients see over 30-percent spike

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The number of homebound clients being served by the Office on Aging went up by over 30 percent in the last fiscal year, according to director Rose Mondala.

"It's climbing really fast," Mondala said in an interview.

This increase, Mondala said, is reflected in a "comparison online report" for services rendered for fiscal years 2010 and 2011 that their office is currently preparing.

Mondala said that she is working on the report with the help of Aging staffers Walter Manglona and David Celis.

According to Mondala, the report is part of the requirements of the Administration on Aging under the Department of Health and Human Services, a federal agency that provides funding for the *man'amko* in the CNMI.

Mondala said the report will include "everything"—from meal counts to supplies.

"It will show the big effect that the economy is doing to the services we provide for our *man'amko*," she said.

The report will be subject to the approval of Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao and Gov. Benigno R. Fitial.

Mondala said they have another week to present the report to Faisao and Fitial before they submit it to the Administration on Aging.

Immigration processing seminar for employers at AMP tomorrow

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will sponsor an informational immigration processing seminar for employers this Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2011, at from 6pm to 7:30pm, at the American Memorial Park indoor auditorium/theatre. This seminar will be presented by the Chamber and the legal offices of Bruce Mailman and Maya Kara, with other panelists.

The presentation will focus on the application process for USCIS visas, and will include discussion on how the recently distributed 2011 Survey on Wages, Salaries and Benefits would fit into that process for H-1B visa petitioning.

SCC will provide the *Handbook for Employers*, which includes instructions for completing Form I-9, DOJ workplace posters and materials for distribution recently provided by USCIS at the seminar. The seminar is provided at no cost to Chamber members. Non-Chamber participants will be charged $15 for the session.

Call the Chamber's offices to reserve a seat with the SCC coordinator/planner at 233-7150, or email to coordinator@saipanchamber.com. Seats are limited to 100, and preference will be afforded Chamber of Commerce members. ***(SCC)***

Convict faces new indictment, this time for labor fraud

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man who was sentenced Friday to six months in prison for driver's license fraud is now busy preparing for a "second round" at the federal court where he faces another charge—labor fraud conspiracy.

Shortly after U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona sentenced Wei Lin to six months in the driver's license fraud case, Lin appeared in court again for his arraignment in the newly filed case.

Lin, a Chinese national, appeared with counsels Joseph Norita Camacho and Michael Norita Evangelista. Assistant U.S. attorney Beverly McCallum represented the U.S. government.

Lin pleaded not guilty to 18 charges relating to allegations that he conspired with other persons to recruit five Chinese nationals from China to the CNMI for employment based on false promises.

Lin's jury trial will begin on Dec. 12, 2011.

Evangelista compared this new case against his client to a boxing match.

"Round one is finished. I am looking forward to round two," Evangelista said.

The new indictment alleges that the five Chinese nationals—four females and one male—were promised work visas after arriving on Saipan, salaries of over $1,000 per month, and jobs as a waitress, cleaner, or taxi driver.

According to the indictment filed by assistant U.S. attorney Kirk Schuler, Lin, while in the CNMI, called one or more of the five Chinese nationals in China in July and August of 2010 to encourage them to come to the CNMI.

In August and September 2010, Lin, with help from others, picked up the five at the Saipan International Airport. Shortly after, Lin collected over $4,000 from each of the five Chinese nationals. Lin then made the four Chinese females sign a contract.

In the driver's license fraud case, although Lin was sentenced to six months in prison on Friday, he was subsequently freed after he was given credit for the time he had already served in jail.

Arts council seeks venue for Christmas exhibit

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture is now preparing for its Christmas exhibit after the successful run of its Cultural Heritage & Arts Pacifica Exhibit last month.

At this time, the council is looking for a venue for the Island Artist and Christmas Craft Exhibit, which is organized in time for the holiday season, according to Parker Yobei, Arts in Education and festival coordinator.

"We encourage business establishments to sponsor this exhibit by providing a venue where our talented artists can display their skills and craftsmanship for the public to appreciate," Yobei told *Saipan Tribune*.

Yobei noted that some of the artworks at the exhibit will also be for sale.

According to Yobei, there are many businesses on island that have rooms or spaces to spare where they can set up the exhibit.

Previous Christmas exhibits were held at the council's gallery on Capital Hill, which does not really encourage many community members to view the displayed artworks.

"We are optimistic that the business community on island will step up to the plate and help support arts and culture by offering us a place where we can hold the exhibit," said Yobei.

For more information, call 322-9981 or 82 or email artscouncil.ccac@gmail.com.

Idaho settlement conference in $5.6M tax refund lawsuit nixed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court has canceled the scheduled settlement conference in the $5.6 million federal tax refund lawsuit filed by businessman John K. Baldwin against the United States of America.

U.S. District Court for the NMI senior district judge Alex R. Munson ordered Friday that the settlement conference in Baldwin's lawsuit currently set for Oct. 17, 2011, in the District of Idaho is taken off calendar.

Munson issued the order after the U.S. government filed an emergency motion for stay and brought to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit a legal issue as to who should attend the settlement conference.

Deputy assistant attorney general Tamara W. Ashford filed the emergency petition asking the Ninth Circuit to order the U.S. District Court for the NMI (Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona and Senior Judge Alex R. Munson) to vacate their orders issued on Sept. 9, 13, and 14, 2011.

In the Sept. 9 order, Munson denied the U.S. government's emergency motion to excuse the government from the requirement that a person with full settlement authority attend the settlement conference in Baldwin's lawsuit.

In his Sept. 13 order, Munson stood pat in his earlier decision that a person with authority to recommend any settlement reached to the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation must be present at the conference.

Manglona, in her Sept. 14 order, denied the U.S. government's second emergency motion.

In the U.S. government's petition in the Ninth Circuit, Ashford said the orders raise the issue whether the District Court has the authority to direct that the U.S., its agencies, or its officers in their official capacities must appear in routine settlement conferences.

Ashford said the orders also raise the issue whether, if such authority exists, it has been abused under the circumstances of this case.

Baldwin, through counsel Deborah Deitsch-Perez, on Thursday informed the federal court that he will oppose the stay motion by responding to both the District Court motion and the Ninth Circuit motion.

Deitsch-Perez said because of travel requirements, Baldwin requests that the briefing schedule for the District Court motion be adjusted to match the Ninth Circuit's briefing schedule and that a decision be rendered as quickly as possible.

The lawyer said that, to attend the settlement conference, Baldwin will be traveling to Idaho from either the CNMI or Asia.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP11-OPA-143

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 20, 2011 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"SINGLE AUDIT OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT FOR FISICAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2011"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

INQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR. ROSAURO D. ZAPANTA, AUDIT MANAGER, AT THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR AT (670) 322-6481

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED

/S/ MICHAEL PAI
PUBLIC AUDITOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner/Claimant

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of VICENTE D. MAGOFNA, Deceased.) Civil Action) No. 11-0241)) NOTICE OF) HEARING ON) PETITION FOR) LETTERS OF) ADMINISTRATION;) NOTICE TO) CREDITORS

TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE VICENTE D. MAGOFNA OR OF HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Marianas Public Land Trust ("Petitioner") has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letters of Administration of the Estate of Vicente D. Magofna, deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Esq., Attorney at Law.

The hearing on the Petition for Letters of Administration by Petitioner has been set for 2nd day of November, 2011 at 1:30pm, at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma'Hustisia, Saipan. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Deceased or his estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, P. O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

Dated this 29th day of September, 2011.

/s/CLERK OF COURT

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA) THRU ITS CHAIRMAN, HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE CDA BOARD WILL HOLD ITS REGULAR MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, WAKIN'S BUILDING, PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN. THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Roll Call
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Adoption of Minutes
   a. Minutes of 9/14/11 CDA Board Meeting
   b. Minutes of 9/14/11 DCD Board Meeting

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. REPORTS
1. Executive Director
2. Comptroller
3. Legal Counsel

IV. DIVISIONS/COMMITTEES
1. Administrative Matters/Personnel & Budget
   a. Interviews – Comptroller Position
   b. Public Laws 10-76 and 11-59
   c. Within Grade Increases (WGI)
   d. Public Law 17-55, FY2012 Budget Act
   e. Governor's Directive No. 282
2. Development Corporation Division (DCD)
   a. Policy & Procedures on Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure
3. Development Banking Division (DBD)
4. QC Program/Economic Development Activities
   a. Open Government Act Request

V. OLD BUSINESS
1. Office Relocation
2. State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI)
3. Commonwealth Gov't Employees' Credit Union (CGECU)
4. New Employer's Share Contribution (NMIRF)
5. Arctic Circle Investment

VI. NEW BUSINESS
1. MPLT Resolution 11-5 and MOA

VII. OTHER MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session)

/s/ **PEDRO I. ITIBUS**
Chairman, CDA Board of Directors

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,) Civil Action) No. 10-0253-CV
Plaintiff, vs. **JESUS S. CEPEDA and YUFENG J. CEPEDA,** **Defendants.**) **NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 8th day of March, 2011, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **28th day of October, 2011 at 10 a.m.**, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 1674 NEW-6-R1, (formerly part of Lot 1674 NEW-6, which was part of original Lot 1674, TD 351), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2043/91, the original of which was recorded on December 31, 1990, as Document No. 90-5133 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.

b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and

c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.

3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.

4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 19th day of September, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,) Civil Action) No. 09-0407-CV
Plaintiff, vs. **KYLE E.M. ULECHONG and JENNIFER N.W. ULECHONG,** **Defendants.**) **NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 8th day of March, 2011, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **28th day of October, 2011 at 10 a.m.**, at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 011 G 1414, located in Kagman III, Saipan, containing an area of 752 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 25, the original of which was recorded on October 10, 1996, as Document No. 96-2568 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.

b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and

c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.

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DATED this 19th day of September, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

UH chosen for Pacific Climate Science Center

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced yesterday the establishment of the Pacific Islands Climate Science Center, a consortium led by the University of Hawaii at Mānoa, the University of Hawaii at Hilo, and the University of Guam. Together with two other new regional climate science centers, the Pacific Islands Climate Science Center will be part of a network of eight regional centers being established by the Department of the Interior. The centers will serve to provide land managers in federal, state and local agencies access to the best science available regarding climate change and other landscape-scale stressors impacting the nation's natural and cultural resources.

"Selecting the locations for the final three of our eight Climate Science Centers is a major milestone in our efforts to implement our department-wide climate change strategy," Salazar said. "The nationwide network of Climate Science Centers will provide the scientific talent and commitment necessary for understanding how climate change and other landscape stressors will change the face of the United States, and how the Department of the Interior, as our nation's chief steward of natural and cultural resources, can prepare and respond."

"The University of Hawaii is conducting groundbreaking research in the area of climate change, and we're excited to be recognized for our expertise in this area with the establishment of this climate science center," said UH president M.R.C. Greenwood. "Together with the University of Guam and other government and institutional partners, we will continue our efforts to understand the nature of climate systems and improve the predictability of climate change and variations, particularly as it affects the Asia-Pacific region."

The university consortium for the Pacific Islands Climate Center will be led by Kevin Hamilton, director of the International Pacific Research Center at UH Mānoa; Donald Price, director of the Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Science graduate program at UH Hilo; and Frank Camacho, executive director of the Center for Island Sustainability at the University of Guam. Key contributions to the development of the successful proposal were provided by Charles "Chip" Fletcher, associate dean of UH Mānoa's School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, UH Mānoa professor of Geography Thomas Giambelluca, and Samuel Walker, institutional researcher for Renewable/Alternative Energy Management at the University of Guam.

"The new climate center will serve as a resource for federal agencies and other stakeholders in providing the necessary science input into policy decisions. It will also support research and graduate student training on a variety of environmental concerns with a primary scientific focus on understanding the effects of climate change and variability on island ecosystems," said Hamilton.

Hamilton noted further that he is "particularly excited to see the new center closely linked with the long-established climate research center at Mānoa, the IPRC. The IPRC focuses principally on basic research in climate variability and change as manifested in the physical properties of the atmosphere and ocean, while the new center will facilitate study of a broader range of fundamental and applied topics related to climate."

The center will also expand on the partnership between the federal, state, and non-government agencies and the Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Science graduate program at UH Hilo.

"This partnership will focus on the impact of climate change on the unique biodiversity in the Pacific region," said Price.

The Pacific Islands Climate Science Center will directly involve both university and federal personnel. The university consortium anticipates initial funding exceeding $3 million over five years. Over time, the Department of the Interior will station several federal scientists to work at the center. Additional funding may also become available to provide competitive grants for which researchers at the consortium may apply. ***(DOI)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 3rd birthday to Jaydon Inri Borja Cruz, who is celebrating his special day today, Oct.11, 2011! May God bless you on this special day of yours and hope you enjoy your birthday. With lots of love from your Palacios family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Know your teeth!

By CRYSTAL EDMISTER
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Dr. Crystal Edmister is a dentist at the Seventh-day Adventist Dental Clinic.

Are your teeth, gums and mouth trying to tell you something? Did you know that if your gums bleed when you floss that probably means you have a gum tissue infection? Does your breath always seem to smell bad? Have you ever thought of brushing your tongue? These are the questions many of my patients ask me when I treat them at the Seventh-day Adventist Dental Clinic. The solutions to these common oral health problems are simple really. You need to "Know Your Teeth"! Become familiar with how to care for your mouth so you can reap the benefits of optimal oral health! How should you do this?

First of all you begin by visiting your dental office on a regular basis. The American Dental Association recommends that you see your registered dental hygienist for a prophylaxis (dental cleaning) and your dentist for a check-up every six months. This is to help keep your mouth in tiptop shape! Your hygienist will be able to clean off any hard calculus deposits that have accumulated from the time of your last dental cleaning. The hygienist will also polish and floss your teeth and give you any guidance and education you may need in properly caring for your oral health. During the dentist's check-up, they will ask you how your mouth feels. They will check all your existing restorations (fillings and crowns, etc), read your x-rays, conduct an external and internal tissue exam, and create a treatment plan of any dental work that needs to be done. It is recommended by the ADA to have dental x-rays taken every year. Dental x-rays emit very little radiation and are very safe on a yearly basis. So call your dental office today to set up that first appointment!

The next way to become familiar with caring for your oral health is to strengthen your own personal dental knowledge bank. You can do this in many different ways. As you are aware, the Internet is full of information you just need to verify that you are reading and learning are from legitimate sites, like the American Dental Association's website: www.ada.org. There you will find a plethora of resources. For example, there's information on any dental condition you can think of; there are articles on the latest science and research that's being done in the field of dentistry; there is info on dental careers, etc. It's a really great website and I'd check it out if I were you! Another huge website resource for the public is the American Dental Hygiene Association: www.adha.org. Here one can find topics varying from caring for your oral health to dry mouth to scholarships available for prospective dental hygiene students.

As one can tell, there are a myriad of ways to help yourself "Know Your Teeth"! Take charge of your oral health! Visit your dentist today as well as one of the above mentioned dental information websites to find the solutions you need to obtain optimal dental health!

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 11, 2000

PSS bats for maintenance budget

Board of Education member Anthony Pellegrino yesterday prodded the Legislature to provide the Public School System a general maintenance budget for the upkeep of its multi-million dollar school facilities in fresh efforts to save the school system's dilapidating structures. Mr. Pellegrino, during a meeting with members of the House Committee on Education, disclosed that PSS' allocated maintenance funds is now less than $300,000, barely enough to cover public schools requiring upgrades and enhancements. "We spend millions of dollars for the construction of new schools but we can't find money to maintain them. Some schools are already in a deplorable state," said Mr. Pellegrino. He added that PSS has never received adequate maintenance budget from the government, citing that the Legislature has somehow overlooked this aspect.

Texas Road improvement gets wide support

Various government agencies have backed the proposed opening of Texas Road to traffic and utility lines, citing the need to ease congestion along Beach Road. The House transportation committee is currently reviewing legislation that will seek funding for improvement of that stretch of back road dissecting the villages of San Jose, Susupe and Chalan Kanoa. HB 12-267 or the "Texas Road Appropriation and Development Act" is sponsored by PUTC chair Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho who has pitched the project as a solution to traffic bottlenecks in Beach Road during rush hours as well as key to sewer, water and power expansion in those areas.

Oct. 11, 2001

Hiring restrictions imposed on firms with reduced work-hours

Hiring restrictions have been imposed on local companies that were allowed to reduce working hours by the Department of Labor and Immigration. The Division of Labor recently came out with a memorandum containing a long list of locally-based companies that are banned from hiring replacements or taking in new hires through exemptions. According to the government agency, it is for obvious reasons that these companies are not allowed to take in more workers, after requesting to cut work-hours due to the economic slowdown. But the division's acting deputy director Joe Ada said that work transfers within the CNMI are allowed.

OPA: Tie-breaker stands

The Public Auditor's Office has denied the appeal filed by a supplier over the rejection of a protest it filed at the Division of Procurement and Supply, saying the division can indeed use the drawing of lots to break a tie in the bids of competing vendors. In an audit report dated October 9, the OPA said it found the arguments of the Island Business Systems & Supplies to be invalid, and that no prejudice to IBSS was shown when P&S used competitive sealed bidding when it solicited the bids for a photocopying machine. The photocopier was for the Department of Public Health. It appeared that the IBSS and its competitor, Xerox Corp., had equally low bids for the machine. To break the tie, P&S proposed the drawing of lots to determine the winner. The IBSS protested this manner of selecting the winner.

Oct. 11, 2002

Youths join hands in fight vs suicide

Gov. Juan N. Babauta yesterday encouraged the Commonwealth's youths to join hands in the community-wide efforts to address concerns relating to the rising incidence of teen suicide in the Northern Marianas. The Governor spoke before about 90 students from various public and private schools on the island during the opening of the three-day First CNMI Youth Summit at the Saipan Diamond Hotel. He also talked about how he battled against peer pressure during his teenage years, as he made a pitch on values formation, which, he said, begins at home.

CUC to reorganize managerial positions

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation intends to do a top-to-bottom reorganization as soon as the CUC Board decides on the executive director post. "We do have plans but I'd rather wait upon the selection of the executive director," CUC acting executive director Bernard Villagomez said. He said the reorganization will most likely start from the division or managerial positions. "We're looking at upper management," he said.

Santa Remedios Church parish honors patron saint

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Parishioners carry the image of Nuestra Senora Bithen De Los Remedios in a procession Sunday. Residents of Achugao, Tanapag, Lower Base, As Mahetog, and parts of Capital Hill celebrated their fiesta with a Mass, a procession, and a feast in honor of their patron saint.
CLARISSA V. DAVID

Parishioners of Santa Remedios Church honored their patron saint, Nuestra Señora Bithen De Los Remedios, on Oct. 9, with a Mass followed by a procession of the patrons saint's image around the Tanapag Village.

Bishop Tomas Camacho, apostolic administrator Fr. Ryan Jimenez, and parish priest Fr. Aurelius Stoia celebrated the fiesta Mass at 3pm. Over a hundred parishioners that included catechists, students, choir members, and the Legion of Mary & Christian Mothers joined in the procession followed by the much-awaited fiesta banquet across the parish church.

The feast featured mostly local food, including fried fresh fish, fried chicken, pork steak, beef steak, roasted pig, and roasted cow—the fiesta's annual specialty for the past seven years.

The parish includes residents from Achugao, Tanapag, Lower Base, and As Mahetog villages as well as parts of Capital Hill.

Santa Remedios Parish Council's Julie Lieto said the fiesta celebration is very important for the parishioners to pay tribute to their village patron saint.

"Every year, we always have a celebration," Lieto said. "We also invite outsiders through advertisement in the media. It's a blessing because a lot of our visitors join the celebration and we get a good outcome every year."

Lieto said parishioners and guests don't just eat but also enjoy performances by local artists who volunteer their time and skills for the success of the fiesta.

"The whole community helps out, in one way or another," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Lieto, the wife of council president Bill Lieto, disclosed that the parish council, composed of two committees in fiesta planning and preparation, solicited monetary and in-kind donations for their raffle draw and the event in general.

Lieto said they also held fundraising activities, including a baseball tournament on Sept. 24-25 and through the assistance of the families of the Royal Court members: Riana Nekai, Kalei Iguel, Leoline Laniyo, Nikka Tegita, and Violet Magofna.

"We raised enough to make our annual fiesta plans possible," she said.

Volunteers helped serve food to parishioners and guests.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Santa Remedios Church fiesta committee members and volunteers smile for the camera with a roast cow, the annual specialty of the fiesta celebration for the last seven years.

Friends of the Arts membership meeting tonight

It's the beginning of The Friends of the Arts new season. FOA members and the public is invited to join them for the first membership meeting of the year at the Taste of India/Templa tonight, Oct. 11, beginning at 6:30pm.

There will be the opportunity to enjoy some delicious Indian cuisine and great entertainment provided by FOA and Thespian performers. In addition, the board will bring participants up-to-date regarding the results of their planning retreat this past summer and with the calendar of all events for this upcoming Season. There will also be a chance for members to purchase season tickets that provide a discount for all of the season's shows.

Entertainment will include:

- Singers from the up-coming October program: Andrew Lloyd Weber *Beyond Memories*
- John Elenzano with his NFL National First Place Award Story-Telling Performance

The cost of the meal will be $15 for adults and young adults 12 and above, $8 for youngsters 5 up to 11, and no cost for the little ones 4 and younger. Members are urged to bring friends, to introduce them to the Friends of the Arts and to share a nice evening and a delicious buffet dinner with FOA friends.

Reservations must be made with Frank Gibson so he can make sure there is enough chicken masala, dal, pumpkin curry, naan bread, and many other dishes to go around. Send Gibson an e-mail at flgibson@yahoo.comto confirm. ***(FOA)***

CTSI Logistics is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Business Operations Manager
Graduate of a 4-year degree course and with a minimum of 8 years of professional progressive management experience and at least 2 years of general management experience in freight forwarding, shipping, transportation, warehouse activities, safety performance, logistics operations and quality management. Knowledge of supply chain, courier & warehousing operations, stock control, financial and quality management is required. Must have a solid track record in accomplishing business objectives.

Logistics Manager
Graduate of 4-year degree course and with at least 6 years management experience in the logistics business with emphasis on airfreight, ocean freight forwarding, warehousing and fuel hauling operations. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, Environmental and Occupational Safety Hazards is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, IICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Accounting Manager
Graduate of 4-year degree course in accounting with at least 5 years experience in financial management: directing the preparation of financial reports; implementing cash management; and directing investment activities for a logistics supply chain business operations. Must have excellent written communication and analysis skills for financial data reporting. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics software are a must.

Storage and Distribution Supervisor
Associate's Degree with at least 3 years of distribution and warehousing supervisory experience. Knowledge of household goods handling and airfreight and oceanfreight operations is required. Proficiency in Warehouse management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Shipping Supervisor
Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of shipping, receiving and warehousing supervisory experience is required. Proficiency in shipping operations, shipping documentation & cargo management system software is required. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, 49 CFR & IMDG Code is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, IICL (Container and Chassis) and Vehicle Safety Guidelines. Knowledge of bill of ladings, scheduling and planning inbound and outbound shipments is a must.

Transportation Supervisor
Associate's Degree and at least 3 years of logistics and trucking operations supervisory experience is required. Must be knowledgeable in transportation and safety regulations and proficient in various logistic software. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, IICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

Freight Forwarding Supervisor
Associate's Degree with at least 3 years experience in freight forwarding operations and 1-year experience in transportation security and communication related activities. Knowledge of TSA security regulations and proficiency in TSA Known Shipper Management System are a must. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation and IATA related trainings. Proficiency in airfreight documentation, freight forwarding software, FEDEX systems and operations are a must. Must be familiar with airline operations and regulations.

Sales Officer (2)
Associate's Degree in Sales or Marketing and at least 3 years work related experience are required as well as an extensive knowledge and experience in supply chain and freight brokerage. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Can work flexible hours. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Proficiency in freight forwarding, shipping and household goods operations is a must. Must be familiar with freight forwarding software.

Accountant
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years experience in financial management for a logistics/supply chain business or agency operations. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, freight forwarding, shipping and logistics systems. Proficient in MS Excel, Word and Power Point. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Bookkeeper
Associate's Degree in Business or Accounting. At least 2 years of work related experience in general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in Microsoft Office applications and various logistics software and adept in the use of of SAP-R3 FICO (Financial and Controling) System. Can work well even with less supervision. Must be able to work under time pressure and can work flexible hours.

Cargo and Freight Agent (5)
Associate's Degree with a minimum of 2 years experience in a logistics, freight brokerage or warehouse services business. Must know how to operate a forklift with certification. Must be able to do strenuous work with some lifting and carrying of small items on the job. Licensed to drive 4x6 wheel closed vans and must have obtained training or certification in handling hazardous materials, Occupational Safety, Hazardous Waste Operation and IAC CCSF authorized screener. Must be proficient in MS Office and Oracle-based programs and available to work on evenings and weekend.

Specialized Truck Driver (7)
High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Must have at least 3 years experience in hauling petroleum products with the corresponding SMITHS & STOPS training certification, carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazmat and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety procedures.

Heavy Equipment Truck Driver (3)
High School graduate with at least 2 years experience operating trucks or vans with a capacity of at least 10,001 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) or 10 to 16-wheeled vehicles. Must have a valid commercial driver's license (CDL). Experience in carrying hazardous materials or oversized loads plus certificates or training in handling hazmat and cargoes is a must. Must be able to follow strict safety and operations procedures.

Shipping and Receiving Clerk (6)
Associate's Degree and at least 2 years work related experience. Must be proficient in MS Office programs as well as other planning and logistics software. Knowledge of supply chain, shipping operations and procedures, document preparation and recordkeeping is required. Should possess good interpersonal and verbal communication skills.

Truck Mechanic
Vocational or High School Graduate. Must be able to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul trucks, or maintain and repair any type of engines. Minimum of two (2) year work experience is required on these areas: lubrication, repairs and servicing, use of machine tools, welding and flame cutting, engine elements, gears, brakes, transmission, exhausts, etc. Expertise in critical devices for fuel tank trucks is a must.

Automotive Body Repairer
Formal Auto Body Training in a Vocational School is required as well as a minimum of one-year experience in repairing and refinishing automotive vehicle bodies' vehicle frames. Proficiency in automotive body painting is required.

Janitor
Dependable attendance, hard working and follows directions well. Must be available to work early mornings, late nights and weekends.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience.
For applications to be considered, they should be sent to hrd@ctsispn.com not later than October 21, 2011.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXI, Issue No. 241

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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EDITORIAL

Steve Jobs: More Henry Ford than Thomas Edison

Since Wednesday's tragic end of the life of Steve Jobs, the tributes have been overwhelming—wall to wall on Facebook, Twitter and websites, and overflowing our letters mailbox. The depth of personal feeling for this man, whose personal life was intensely private, is amazing, and the hyperbole about his accomplishments knows no bounds. Historians will need to filter it carefully to capture Jobs' true genius for posterity.

Many fans, such as film director Albert Brooks, are calling him the Edison of our time. Tech historians would instead bestow that title on perhaps William Shockley or Bob Noyce, inventors of the technology that made what Jobs did possible. Jobs himself was less Thomas Edison than Henry Ford: Looking at the technology, he was able to see its potential for Everyman. He made complex devices easy and fun to use—and more and more of them, each more elegant and cool than the last.

Making money is not what drove Jobs. Producing devices that boggled our minds is. His death touched so many because he knew us so well.

"The only way to do great work is to love what you do," he told Stanford University graduates in 2005. Could anyone in Silicon Valley have loved a job more?

Even now it's hard to recall what a game-changer Jobs' and his tech wizard pal Steve Wozniak's original Apple II was when it hit stores in 1977. Before then, only the geekiest of geeks made practical personal use of computers. Time magazine called it the "machine that made the revolution." Suddenly, the power of computing was accessible to small business owners, teachers and students, moms and dads. It was one of the most life-changing U.S. products since Ford introduced the Model T in 1908.

By 1980, at age 25, Jobs was worth $239 million. He could have quit and enjoyed a life of leisure. But Apple II was just an opening act. He introduced the Mac before being forced out of Apple. Then he went on to Pixar, the creator of the first fully computer-animated film, "Toy Story," and founded the innovative but less successful NeXT. Returning to Apple, he introduced the iPod, iTunes, iPhone and iPad. Each product on its own would have been an impressive lifetime achievement for a CEO.

But Jobs' quest for more kept pushing him forward.

He explained where he found his inspiration as he closed that Stanford address:

"When I was young, there was an amazing publication called *The Whole Earth Catalog*, which was one of the bibles of my generation. ... When it had run its course, they put out a final issue. It was the mid-1970s, and I was your age. On the back cover of their final issue was a photograph of an early morning country road, the kind you might find yourself hitchhiking on if you were so adventurous. Beneath it were the words: 'Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish.' It was their farewell message as they signed off. Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish. And I have always wished that for myself. And now, as you graduate to begin anew, I wish that for you.

"Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish."

R.I.P., Steve Jobs, 1955-2011.

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Occupy Wall Street: The new populists?

By CHRISTOPHER KETCHAM
Los Angeles Times

Christopher Ketcham is the author of The Rein of the One Percenters: Income Equality and the Death of Culture in New York City *in the current issue of Orion magazine. He wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

They call themselves the 99 Percenters. "We are occupying Wall Street," they say, encamped by the hundreds in a park dubbed Liberty Square in Lower Manhattan's financial district, and now seconded by satellite groups at L.A.'s City Hall, in San Francisco and in Chicago, Boston, St. Louis and dozens of other cities. "We will use the revolutionary Arab Spring tactic of mass occupation," they avow, "to restore democracy in America."

For the last two weeks, their numbers have ebbed and flowed. They are young, many of them college educated, most of them jobless—most of them feeling they've been robbed of a workable future. They're sleeping in tents, sharing food, communicating by social media and participating in what their website calls a nonviolent, "leaderless resistance movement" to denounce "the greed and corruption of the 1 percent." They hold signs that say, "People not profit" and "Populism not corporate fascism."

It doesn't get a lot more specific than that. One of them, a 25-year-old ex-Marine named Brian Phillips, told me he quit his job in Washington state and hitchhiked to join the protest in New York. "We want to start a new way of living," Phillips said. "We want to start a new society. We want to destroy a system that benefits only the 1 Percenters. It's not working for us. It's putting us in poverty. No more making laws that benefit corporations and banks."

The focal point, however, is specific: Manhattan. The capital of the finance corporations whose speculation, chicanery and outright fraud have produced havoc and pain for so many Americans. It sets the model nationally for a metastasizing economic regression: the maldistribution of wealth into the hands of the few.

Out of the 25 largest cities in the United States, New York is the most unequal when it comes to income distribution. In New York, the top 1 percent of households claimed 44 percent of all income during 2007 (the last year for which data are available). That's almost twice the record-high levels among the 1 Percenters nationwide, who claimed 23.5 percent of all national income in 2007. During the housing bubble that ended in our current calamity, the average income for the 1 Percenters in New York went up 119 percent.

Meanwhile, the number of homeless in the city rose to an all-time high last year, with 113,000 men, women and children retreating night after night to municipal shelters. The real hourly median wage in New York between 1990 and 2007 fell by almost 9 percent. Young men and women age 25 to 34 with a bachelor's degree and a year-round job in New York saw their earnings drop 6 percent. Middle-income New Yorkers—defined broadly as those earning between $29,000 and $167,000—saw a 19% decrease in earnings. Almost 11 percent of the population in New York, about 900,000 people, lives in what the federal government describes as "deep poverty," which for a four-person family means an income of $10,500; the average 1 Percenter household in New York makes about that same amount every day.

It's not surprising, then, that more than 700 New Yorkers and fellow travelers, chanting "Whose streets, our streets," got arrested on the Brooklyn Bridge over the weekend, or that several hundred white-faced "corporate zombies" staggered by the New York Stock Exchange on Monday. The Teamsters announced their support. So did the postal workers union, teachers, nurses and transit workers. Thousands marched Wednesday, swelling the protesters' ranks.

U.S. history teaches us that the politics of peaceful disruption has been an effective way to prod the establishment toward greater social and economic justice. Consider the suffragists in the early 1900s, who fought for a woman's right to vote; or labor's long history of strikes and rallies that finally led to mass unionization. Consider the civil rights marchers and martyrs, and the antiwar demonstrators of the 1960s. They shut down factories, took to the streets, braved freedom rides. They made noise and made news.

But perhaps the closest historical parallel is with the Populist movement of the 1890s, which, like Occupy Wall Street, was a broad, economics-driven revolt that targeted a predatory class of corporate capitalists—the robber barons of the Gilded Age.

The Populists drove the Progressive era of reform of the early 1900s. They sought to dismantle the centralized power of corporations in the economy and return economic liberty to individuals and small business. They envisioned a graduated income tax, the secret ballot, the regulation of banks. It remains to be seen if today's 99 Percenters will be as successful at transforming the political discourse.

The Populists formed a political party with a specific platform—the People's Party. They ran candidates who won office; they formed real-world banking and agricultural cooperatives to challenge the hegemony of corporate capitalism.

In Liberty Square, the protesters say that they have no intention of disbanding; that they're preparing for a long, cold winter. But will their numbers increase, or will their resolve fizzle in the histrionics of street theater? Will they organize or merely proselytize? Most important, can they move enough of today's silent majority—99 Percenters all—off the sidelines and into the fray?

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

What the nation needs and veterans have earned

By ERIC K. SHINSEKI
Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Eric K. Shinseki is secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20420; website: www.va.gov.

Nearly 3 million men and women have volunteered to serve in our armed forces since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. These soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen left their families and risked their lives to fight for our freedoms overseas. They should not have to fight for a job when they come home.

That is why the president has championed the American Jobs Act, and why the Congress should pass his plan with urgent speed. It will help our veterans, who are just back from war, find a job. And it will give strength and stability to American families and communities.

For our veterans and their families, this is essential. This 9/11 generation has been a formidable force for good—driving the Taliban from the battlefield in 2002, capturing Saddam Hussein, routing al-Qaida from its sanctuaries, delivering justice to Osama bin Laden, bringing an end to Anwar al-Aulaki's terrorist rant, and training Iraqi and Afghan forces to defend their own countries.

They remain clear-eyed, dedicated and disciplined in their service. They are skilled leaders, and a decade of war has not bowed them. But, too often, they face a daunting task in finding a job once they leave the military.

Right now, more than 870,000 young veterans are unemployed. During the next five years, as troops return from Iraq and Afghanistan, an additional 1 million veterans are likely to leave the armed forces and look for jobs at home.

To help them transition, the American Jobs Act would create up to a $5,600 Returning Heroes Tax Credit for small businesses that hire veterans who have been out of work for more than six months. The American Jobs Act also includes an increase in the existing Wounded Warriors Tax Credit of up to $9,600 per veteran for firms that hire veterans, who have service-connected disabilities and who have been unemployed for a long time.

Each year, veterans start more than 100,000 small businesses, and an additional 300,000 veterans choose self-employment. The American Jobs Act would provide critical assistance not only to these veteran-owned small businesses but also to every small business in America, cutting their taxes and providing an incentive to expand their workforce and increase the wages of their employees.

Veterans hire veterans, so VA is following the president's lead by expanding opportunities for veteran-owned small businesses. In August, VA conducted our National Veteran-owned Small Business Exposition. This training conference provided an unprecedented opportunity for veteran small business owners to build capacity, grow their businesses, and connect directly with VA procurement decision-makers. More than 4,100 people attended, approximately 1,600 of whom represented either veteran-owned or service-disabled, veteran-owned small businesses.

The men and women of the 9/11 generation have already learned to work together in diverse teams to achieve difficult objectives. They have also disciplined themselves to forgo their own comfort and safety for the sake of others—and bear the scars to prove it. All they need now is the training, education and credentials to transition successfully to the civilian workforce or pursue higher education.

We salute our veterans when they come home and thank them for their sacrifices for our nation. But they have earned more than a kind word of appreciation.

Honoring our sacred trust with our veterans means doing all we can to help them find work when they come home. They should never feel that the American Dream they defended is out of reach for them or their families. The American Jobs Act will help veterans find meaningful employment, continue contributing to their communities and aid in our economic recovery. Congress should not delay in approving it.

A US-European strategy with Putin's Russia

By DENIS CORBOY, WILLIAM COURTNEY AND KENNETH YALOWITZ
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Western relations with Russia have improved since nosediving after the 2008 war with Georgia, but they face new challenges with the return to the presidency next year of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, who is often critical of the West. A new strategy is required to achieve attainable and important interests while not jeopardizing key principles.

Gains with Russia since 2008 are notable. A new U.S.-Russian treaty limits strategic nuclear arms. Transit of supplies across Russia for NATO forces in Afghanistan has increased. Moscow has assented to incremental sanctions on Iran.

But difficulties lie ahead. Russia has condemned the European Union's ban on oil imports from Syria, and it opposes a U.N. arms embargo or asset freeze. Last April, Putin likened the U.N. resolution on protecting civilians in Libya to "a medieval call for a crusade." Further sanctions against Iran remain contentious. Putin has warned that Russia will deploy new "strike forces" absent a deal with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on missile defense. Russian hopes for visa-free travel to Europe and America are foundering. Many Russians do not qualify for visas today, so a visa-free regime would be unworkable.

Problems with Russia's neighbors, however, are the most worrisome. Russia deploys military forces in Georgia's separatist regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, and even further into Georgia. Russia is establishing a naval base in Abkhazia, and Putin hints that South Ossetia might join Russia. Ukraine seeks to renegotiate an expensive gas contract, while Moscow pressures it to join a Russian-led customs union with Belarus and Kazakhstan. It would take Ukraine further away from its ambition to move closer to Europe. Thus, risks remain of future disruptions in gas shipments to Europe. Moscow is turning the economic screw on Belarus; last month Putin called a merger with Russia "possible and very desirable." Putin's call this week for an even tighter "Eurasian union" will make Russia's neighbors even more anxious.

A constructive dialogue with Russia remains important, but so are freedoms and principles. Europe and America should speak as one voice about Russia's human rights violations; Germany downplays them. The European Court of Human Rights must remain a beacon for disenfranchised Russians, who mostly win their appeals. Russian acceptance of the principles of the European Energy Charter Treaty, which fosters the rule or law, ought to remain a priority.

There are vital common interests between the West and Russia. One is securing dangerous nuclear materials and averting illicit trafficking in them, an area in which cooperative threat reduction programs have made enormous progress. As NATO forces draw down in Afghanistan, America and Europe should step up efforts with Russia (and China) to strengthen security in vulnerable Central Asia republics and stem the northward flow of narcotics and Islamic extremists.

The new, multi-billion-dollar Exxon Mobil accord with a Russian state-owned oil company, Rosneft, for energy exploitation in the Arctic and Black Seas underscores the value of better cooperation to protect the environment, deal with potential oil spills, and lessen shipping risks. Collaboration with Russia to combat the spread of drug-resistant tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and other global health threats will lessen shared risks.

Despite the recent firing of the well-respected Russian Finance Minister, Putin increasingly needs foreign energy investment and closer economic ties with Europe. Last November he touted the vision of a free trade area from Lisbon to Vladivostok.

Vibrant mechanisms are lacking for "soft power" or non-military interaction with Russia. The U.S.-Russian bilateral presidential commission is nearly invisible. A new U.S.-European-Russian structure ought to replace it, adding Europe's great clout and deep linkages with Russia. Last year almost half of Russia's foreign trade was with the EU, over nine times more than with America. Europe is Russia's largest market for gas exports, and by far its largest source of foreign direct investment.

America and Russia are no longer the main game; Europe has become much weightier. By combining their leverage, the United States and Europe will strengthen their hand to get more done productively with Putin's Russia while helping protect the security of its neighbors.

Denis Corboy is director of the Caucasus Policy Institute at King's College London and a former European Commission ambassador to Georgia and Armenia. William Courtney is a former U.S. ambassador to Kazakhstan and Georgia, and special assistant to the U.S. president for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia. Kenneth Yalowitz, former U.S. ambassador to Belarus and Georgia and Economics Minister in Moscow, is director of the Dickey Center for International Understanding at Dartmouth College.

Say 'I do'—until the contract is due

By LANE FILLER
NEWSDAY

How long of a marriage would you commit to if you were offered options? Lifetime? Ten years? One sun-drenched week in Acapulco? Until last call? For most of our history it's not been a question. Marriage was till death do us part (imagine how many deaths that rule hastened) or until one party got fed up enough to head for the hills, or, if the couple lived in the hills, the valleys.

That could all be changing, in Mexico at least.

Last week, Mexico City legislators proposed a bill that would require all couples to sign a prenuptial agreement stating how long they planned to be married, with a minimum sentence ... er, term, of two years. The agreement would also spell out how child custody and other thorny divorce issues ("Hands off the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band albums and the salad spinner, you cad!") would be handled if the bliss gives way to the blahs.

It's a fascinating idea, particularly when you consider how long people live now. I once interviewed a couple celebrating their 80th wedding anniversary and the term "celebrating" had to be applied pretty loosely.

Some scientists predict we could soon live to 150 years of age. No matter how much you adore your high school sweetheart, 130 years together might snap the bonds of love.

And a two-year contract makes sense. The first year is all honeymoon, and the second year, like a utility infielder with an iffy bat, you'll be playing your heart out to earn a place on the squad come next season. A marriage with a measly two-year guarantee might cut down on the flannel footie pajamas and the "I don't shower on weekends" mentality.

Historians argue that when women were granted the right to seek divorce, men began to work harder at being good husbands, so the threat of dissolving marriages has advantages.

If you start considering innovative marriage terms, the options are endless. What about two years on, two years off? Most spouses run out of fresh anecdotes to recount after sharing their lives for a while: Husband: "Did I ever tell you about the time I drove down the Long Island Expressway in reverse, trying to find a Bell Biv DeVoe CD that had fallen out the window, and I smashed my Escalade into a police cruiser and got arrested?" Wife: "It was my Escalade. I'm the one who threw the CD out the window. I posted your bail. Idiot." By alternating periods of marriage and singletude, partners would come back to the relationship with great new stories.

Some couples might try being married five days a week, and footloose two. What about alternating seasons? Summer is great for the single, but who wants to be alone in winter? And, while we're experimenting, what about polygamy? To me, the idea that the cure for the hardships of marriage is more spouses tastes like a big bowl of insanity with a creamy stupidity topping—but others might disagree.

The scheme proposed in Mexico does pose problems, though. There is no plan for child-raising you can insert in a prenup that replaces two committed parents living together, and working together, to provide a top-notch upbringing.

And marriage is hard. If you go into it believing divorce is OK, you are almost certain to divorce. There will come a day of angry silences and furious rants, and rather than offering the apologies, rather than changing the behavior that led to the fracas, you will simply walk away.

That's why my wife and I have a more explicit version of "Till death do us part" as an oath. Our marriage motto is "No one here gets out alive." When the other option is a gangland-style slaying, you find a way to kiss and make up.

Lane Filler is a member of the Newsday *editorial board.*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

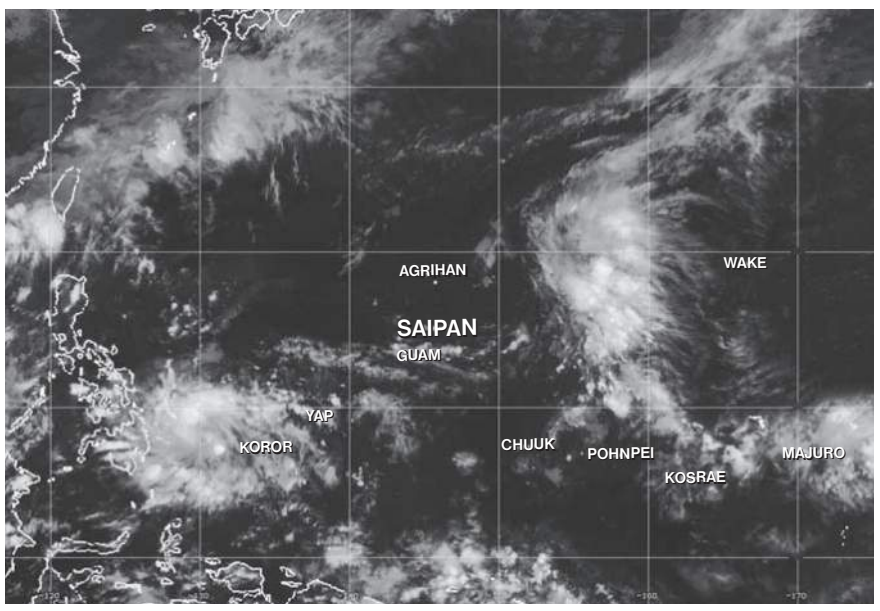
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Chuuk	Rain	▲83	▼75
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼75
Kosrae	Rain	▲87	▼75
Majuro	Rain	▲82	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲67	▼61
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲73	▼54
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲84	▼79
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼76
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲67	▼58
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲77	▼56
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼79
Melbourne	Showers	▲59	▼49
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼75
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲83	▼60
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲78	▼60
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼56
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼62
Rome	Sunny	▲85	▼56
Salem	Rain	▲59	▼55
San Francisco	Showers	▲66	▼61
Seoul	Sunny	▲73	▼55
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲75	▼62
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼61

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression 23W is west of Koror near 8N132E. It is moving toward the west-southwest at 13 mph with maximum sustained winds of 30 mph. Scattered showers and thunderstorms are west of 133E between 5N and 11N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are between 5N and 10N from 133E to 140E. For more information on TD23W, refer to bulletins issued under WMO headers WTPN31 PGTW and WTPQ31 PGUM. An upper-level low northeast of Saipan centered near 18N151E is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 14N and 23N from 153E to 162E and within 100 miles of a line from 13N159E to 8N162E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from near Kosrae eastward across the Marshall Islands between 5N and 10N from 165E to the date line.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:12 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
7:15 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
1:20 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
6:57 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:08 AM	6:00 PM
Wednesday	6:08 AM	5:59 PM
Thursday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Saturday	6:09 AM	5:57 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:17 PM	5:10 AM
Wednesday	5:54 PM	5:57 AM
Thursday	6:33 PM	6:45 AM
Friday	7:15 PM	7:34 AM
Saturday	8:00 PM	8:24 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 5, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
C05062	2:20am	2:50am	1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)			
C05064	4:25am	5:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
C05070	4:25am	5:15am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05064	4:25am	6:00am	1, 5 via ROP
5K384	7:20am	8:10am	2, 6
C05068	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C05068	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05074	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C05076	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K386	5:50pm	6:40pm	3, 4, 7
C05078	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
5K382	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
C05072	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
5K212	8:20am	10:55am	4, 7
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:05am	8:30am	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C05070/191	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
C05068/183	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM
C05076/183	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM
C05076/193	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C05072/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
5K168	8:15am	11:25pm	1, 5
C05076/179	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
C05064	5:30am	6:00am	1, 5
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
C05062	3:20am	3:55am	1, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
C05062	2:20am	3:55am	1, 5 via ROP
C05069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
5K387	6:30am	7:20am	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
C05071	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C05071	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05073	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05075	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C05077	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
5K383	6:30pm	7:20pm	2, 6
C05079	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
5K213	11:55am	4:25pm	4, 7
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:55am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
C0190/5079	10:55am	9:00pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:35pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:35pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0192/5071	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C05071	10:00pm	7:25am+1	5 via GUM
PR110/C05071	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
C0184/5071	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
C0184/5071	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C0184/5071	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ724/603	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
5K169	1:00pm	8:05pm	1, 5
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0180/5071	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
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  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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Business

Unemployed seek protection against job bias

WASHINGTON (AP)—After two years on the unemployment rolls, Selena Forte thought she'd found a temporary job at a delivery company that matched her qualifications.

But Forte, a 55-year-old from Cleveland, says a recruiter for an employment agency told her she would not be considered for the job because she had been out of work too long. She had lost her job driving a bus.

"They didn't even want to hear about my experience," said Forte. "It didn't make sense. You're always told just go out there and get a job."

Forte, scraping by now as a part time substitute school bus driver, is part of a growing number of unemployed or underemployed Americans who complain they are being screened out of job openings for the very reason they're looking for work in the first place. Some companies and job agencies prefer applicants who already have jobs, or haven't been jobless too long.

She could get help from a provision in President Barack Obama's jobs bill, which would ban companies with 15 or more employees from refusing to consider—or offer a job to—someone who is unemployed. The measure also applies to employment agencies and would prohibit want ads that disqualify applicants just because they are unemployed.

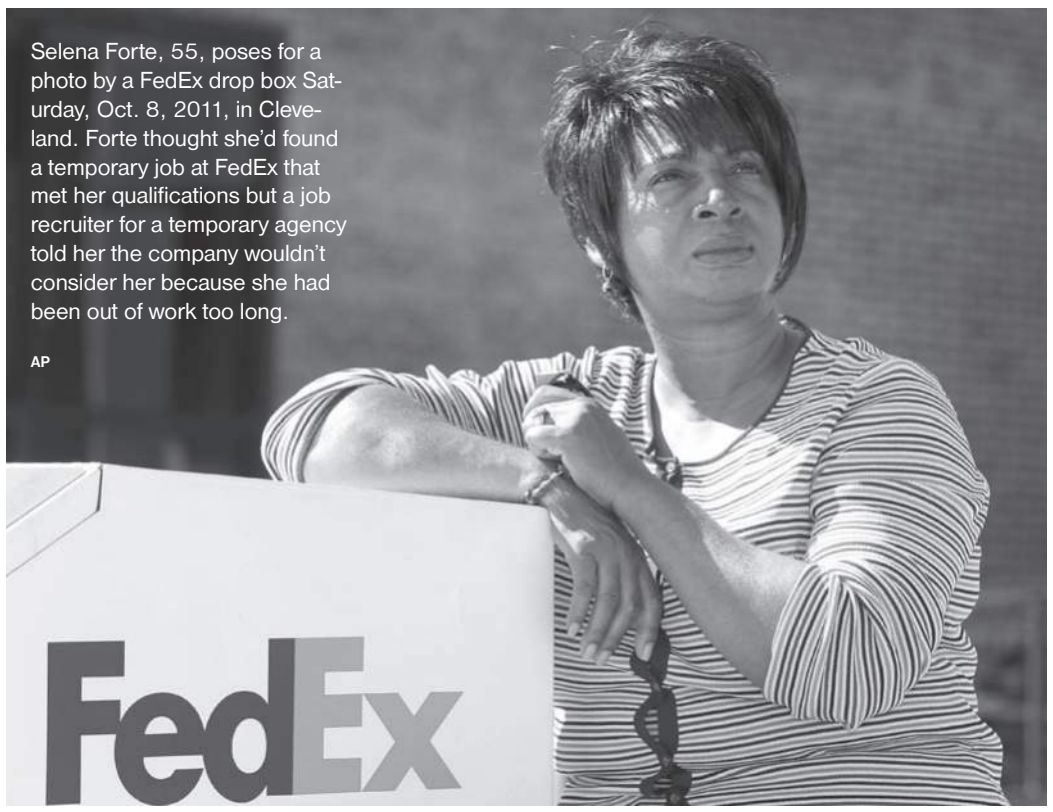
But Obama's bill faces a troubled path in Congress, as Republicans strongly oppose its plans for tax increases on the wealthy and other spending provisions. Should the bill fail, Democrats are sure to remind jobless voters that the GOP blocked an attempt to redress discrimination against them at a time when work is so hard to find.

The effort to protect the unemployed has drawn praise from workers' rights advocates, but business groups say it will just stir up needless litigation by frustrated job applicants. The provision would give those claiming discrimination a right to sue, and violators would face fines of up to $1,000 per day, plus attorney fees and costs.

"Threatening business owners with new lawsuits is not going to help create jobs and will probably have a chilling effect on hiring," said Cynthia Magnuson, spokeswoman for the National Federation of Independent Business. "Business owners may be concerned about posting a new job if they could face a possible lawsuit."

A survey earlier this year by the National Employment Law Project found more than 150 job postings on employment Web sites such as CareerBuilder.com and Monster.com requiring that applicants "must be currently employed" or using other exclusionary language based on current employment status.

"It's really alarming to us that employers continue to ignore the strong public condemnation of this practice," said Maurice Emsellem, the legal group's policy co-director.



Selena Forte, 55, poses for a photo by a FedEx drop box Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011, in Cleveland. Forte thought she'd found a temporary job at FedEx that met her qualifications but a job recruiter for a temporary agency told her the company wouldn't consider her because she had been out of work too long.

AP

The issue has gained more prominence as the unemployment level remains stuck over 9 percent and a record 4.5 million people—nearly one-third of the unemployed—have been out of work for a year or more. And older workers, like Forte, often struggle to find new jobs.

"There's a flood of workers looking for jobs right now and unfortunately, this is a convenient way to streamline the process" by employers, Emsellem said. Some companies might assume people who have been out of work for several months may not be stellar performers, he said.

The practice has also drawn concern from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, where members at a hearing earlier this year said barring unemployed people from employment may have a greater effect on blacks and Hispanics with higher jobless rates.

Ron Cooper, a former commission general counsel during the Bush administration now in private practice, said he thinks the problem is being overblown.

"People, I'm sure, are looking for shortcuts to trim the applicant pool that they're looking at," Cooper said. "But I've never heard of this as a top-shelf criteria for people making those decisions."

Forte says she had sought a job at FedEx through the agency Kelly Services, where she said a recruiter told her the company was not considering applicants who have been out of work longer than six months. "Here I am, a seasoned worker. I didn't have six months, but I had eight years of experience," she said.

Jane Stehney, a Kelly spokeswoman, said the company does not discriminate on any basis, including unemployment status. And Sally Davenport, a spokeswoman for FedEx in Memphis, said her company has no policy barring the unemployed from seeking a job and never instructed the temp agency to discriminate

"We interview and hire the candidates best qualified for the job," she said. "There was obviously confusion on the part of the temp agency."

Last month, the job search Web site Indeed.com announced it would not accept any job ad that seeks to exclude the unemployed.

"Our policy is to exclude job listings that do not comply with federal or local laws related to discriminatory hiring practices as well as job listings that discriminate against the unemployed," said Indeed.com spokeswoman Sophie Beaurpere.

Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown, a Democrat who has sponsored a separate bill protecting the unemployed, said he understands that employers need the right to hire according to their needs and to factor in work experience.

"But they shouldn't have the right to discriminate from the start and preemptively deny qualified workers a fair chance at a job they need," Brown said.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil near $84 on better than expected US jobs data

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices rose to near $84 a barrel Monday in Asia amid better than expected U.S. jobs data and signs Europe may move to protect its banks from a sovereign debt crisis. Benchmark crude for November delivery was up 64 cents at $83.62 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract climbed 39 cents to settle at $82.98 in New York on Friday. Brent crude was up 20 cents at $106.08 a barrel on the ICE Futures Exchange in London.

Asia stocks tepid after Europe debt crisis meeting

BANGKOK (AP)—Asian stock markets were mixed Monday after a weekend meeting of the leaders of France and Germany provided a promise of action on Europe's debt crisis but few details. Oil prices hovered above $83 per barrel while the dollar slipped against the euro and the yen. On Sunday, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Nicolas Sarkozy said a comprehensive response to the debt crisis would be finalized by the end of the month, including a detailed plan to ensure European banks have adequate capital. Few other details were provided.

Conn. gets tough with Amazon, pushing on with tax

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—Connecticut officials are not giving up on requiring Internet sellers to collect state sales taxes, despite signs from online retailer Amazon.com that it has no immediate plans to abide by the state's new Internet tax law. State officials confirmed to The Associated Press that Amazon wrote the Department of Revenue Services this month, saying the company is not obligated to abide by the law because it does not have a physical presence in Connecticut. Amazon contends that by not having a physical presence, it does not have to collect and remit taxes to the state, a protection of the U.S. Constitution.

Germany, France reach agreement on Europe's banks

BERLIN (AP)—The leaders of Germany and France, the eurozone's two biggest economies, said Sunday they have reached an agreement about how to strengthen Europe's shaky banking sector amid the region's debt crisis.

"We are determined to do the necessary to ensure the recapitalization of Europe's banks," German Chancellor Angela Merkel following talks with French President Nicolas Sarkozy in Berlin.

A "comprehensive response" to the eurozone's debt crisis will be finalized by month's end, including a detailed plan on recapitalizing the banks, Sarkozy said at Berlin's chancellery.

"The economy needs secure financing to ensure growth. There is no prospering economy without stable banks," he said. "That is what is at stake."

However, both leaders declined to name a price tag for the new measures or elaborate further, saying the proposal must first be discussed with other European leaders.

Analysts have urged the eurozone to identify all the banks in the region that need to replenish their capital reserves, then decide whether to compel them to raise that money on the open markets and to provide government financing to the ones that can't.

Many experts say the capital cushions of many European banks must be strengthened in order to withstand a possible government bond default by Greece. Some analysts fear that a Greek default could cause a severe credit squeeze that would even threaten banks not exposed directly to Greece's debt because banks could be afraid to lend to each other.

The credit freeze following the collapse of U.S. investment bank Lehman Brothers in 2008 choked off lending to the wider economy and caused a deep recession.

Merkel did not provide details Sunday about how the recapitalization would work, saying only that all banks across the eurozone would be measured by the same criteria in coordination with, among others, the European Banking Authority and the International Monetary Fund.

Any solution must be "sustainable," Merkel added.

Sarkozy said the French-German accord on the proposal "is total."

Germany and France will now submit their proposal to shore up Europe's shaky banking sector to other European Union governments ahead of an Oct. 17-18 summit of the bloc's 27 leaders in Brussels, they said.

American growth theorists top contenders for Nobel

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Researchers who study economic growth and how technology helps drive long-term development are among the top contenders for the Nobel prize for economics being awarded Monday, Swedish Nobel guessers say.

A day before the announcement of the prestigious 10 million kronor ($1.5 million) award, Americans Robert Barro and Paul Romer stand out as favorites for the prize for their research on growth, leading experts say.

The Nobel Committee maintains it doesn't pay attention to current events when picking a winner, but an award to growth theory would be closely watched as the world debates how to revive the economy in the face of large public spending cuts.

Romer, a former senior fellow at Stanford University now at New York University, has been hot "for a couple of decades," said Uppsala University economics professor Daniel Waldenstrom. That is one of the unspoken criteria to win the prize because it typically takes that much time to evaluate if results are sustainable.

"His research is focused on powers within technology and development that drive growth, that had previously been overlooked," Waldenstrom told The Associated Press. "He has showed that it is actually significant for long-term growth and has changed our view of what drives growth."

Romer has constructed mathematical models showing how technological advances are the result of specific decisions to invest in research and development. Later, he advanced his ideas, concluding that to make real progress, societies must also keep implementing better rules that structure how people work together.

Nation

Seasoned activists critique Wall Street protests

NEW YORK (AP)—To veterans of past social movements, the Occupy Wall Street protests that began in New York and spread nationwide have been a welcome response to corporate greed and the enfeebled economy. But whether the energy of protesters can be tapped to transform the political climate remains to be seen.

"There's a difference between an emotional outcry and a movement," said Andrew Young, who worked alongside the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. as a strategist during the civil rights movement and served as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. "This is an emotional outcry. The difference is organization and articulation."

The nearly four-week-old protest that began in a lower Manhattan park has taken on a semblance of organization and a coherent message has largely emerged: That "the 99 percent" who struggle daily as the economy shudders, employment stagnates and medical costs rise are suffering as the 1 percent who control the vast majority of the economy's wealth continues to prosper.

Labor unions and students joined the protest on Wednesday, swelling the ranks for a day into the thousands, and lending the occupation a surge of political clout and legitimacy. President Barack Obama said Thursday that the protesters were "giving voice to a more broad-based frustration about how our financial system works;" some Republicans have been seeking to cast Occupy Wall Street as class warfare.

The growing cohesiveness and profile of the protest have caught the attention of public intellectuals and veterans of past social movements.

"I think if the idea of the movement is to raise the discontent that a lot of people from different walks of life and different persuasions have on the economic inequity in this country—it's been perfect," said the Rev. Al Sharpton, who plans to broadcast his nationally syndicated radio show from the park on Monday and five days later lead a jobs march in Washington, D.C.

He said he felt it was necessary to be there to talk about how blacks and Latinos are also buffeted by the economic difficulties.

"I think it is more a movement to show dissatisfaction. I think that is effective and useful," he said.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson said the protest was a growing success. "There is a legitimacy to their demands for economic reconstruction," he said, with the analysis of the problems in the economic system "dead on," as he wrote in a commentary.

He said the protest could become a powerful movement if "it remains disciplined, focused and nonviolent—and turns some of their pain into voting power."

History is littered with social movements that failed to emerge as political forces to create lasting change—including mass labor protests to end unemployment and to call attention to job injustices, said Immanuel Ness, a professor of political science at Brooklyn College and the editor of the "Encyclopedia of American Social Movements."

AP

A coalition of clergy carry a "False Idol" to the Occupy Wall Street encampment in Zuccotti Park, Sunday, Oct. 9, 2011 in New York.

New law protects foster kids from identity theft

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—Dee Saint Franc left the Rhode Island foster care system eager to start life on her own. But when she tried sign up for cable and Internet at Verizon, she learned that breaking free from her past wouldn't be easy.

A customer service representative told Saint Franc that someone had used her identity to rack up $3,000 worth of delinquent bills dating back to 1998.

"I was like, `$3,000? I just turned 18,'" recalled Saint Franc, now 21 and going to college in Providence. "It didn't make any sense. I was 8 years old in 1998."

Saint Franc is one of a disturbingly high number of children who leave foster care only to find that someone has stolen their identity to open credit accounts, take out loans or pay bills, authorities say. Studies show that foster children face higher rates of identity theft than other children or even adults.

A provision in a new federal law requires states to run credit checks on older foster children and help resolve cases of identity theft so they can enter adulthood without the burden of someone else's debt or the stain of bad credit.

Children, and particularly foster children, make great targets for identity thieves, child welfare officials and researchers say. Too young to take out a loan or credit card, they have Social Security numbers that are a clean slate, ripe for exploitation. Children aren't likely to realize their identity has been stolen until they grow up and apply for credit.

And too often, foster children come from struggling, troubled families where a relative might see a child's Social Security number as a way to keep the lights on, put food on the table or feed an addiction.

One researcher estimates that as many as 30 percent of foster children may be the victims of identity theft, based on reviews of the credit reports of foster children.

"These children are already behind the eight ball," said U.S. Rep. Jim Langevin, a Rhode Island Democrat and co-sponsor of the new law requiring credit checks for foster children. "They're already dealing with psychological and emotional problems because of abuse and neglect. It's outrageous that they would be further victimized by identity theft and find out about it just when they're trying to establish themselves with a car loan, apartment or job."

Overall, children are more likely than adults to be targeted for identity theft, according to researchers at Carnegie Mellon University. The researchers worked with an identity protection company to comb through records of 42,000 children and found more than 10 percent showed signs of identity theft.

About 4 percent of adults are victims of identity theft, according to federal estimates.

The discrepancy may be even worse for foster children. Officials in California reviewed credit reports of foster children in Los Angeles County and found more than 100 victims of identity theft who were 16 and 17 years old. Victims had an average of more than two accounts opened in their name, with an average of $1,800 in debts in each account.

Medical bills and telephone services were the most common type of account, followed by cable television service, credit cards and utilities.

Bachmann: Debt ceiling fight kept her out of NH

NORTH CONWAY, N.H. (AP)—Republican presidential hopeful Michele Bachmann said Sunday that her unsuccessful fight against raising the federal debt ceiling kept her away from New Hampshire for nearly four months, but she's still committed to winning over voters in the key early primary state. Before starting a four-day bus trip Sunday, the Minnesota congresswoman had only campaigned in New Hampshire once since announcing her campaign in late June. Speaking to a small but enthusiastic group at a North Conway restaurant, she blamed the debt ceiling debate for her absence.

Bachmann last visited the state June 28. The vote on raising the debt ceiling happened Aug. 2.

"You didn't see me a lot here in New Hampshire and I'll tell you why: It's because my first duty was to go back to Washington, D.C.," she said.

The latest WMUR Granite State poll, released last week, put Bachmann's support among likely New Hampshire GOP primary voters at just 2 percent, down from 12 percent in early July. In the earlier poll, she was in second place behind former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, who remains first in the latest poll as well.

AP

Republican presidential candidate Rep. Michele Bachmann, R-Minn., greets customers during a campaign stop at Zeb's General Store Sunday, Oct. 9, 2011, in North Conway, NH

Despite those numbers, Bachmann told reporters that she "absolutely" will compete in the primary.

"Of course we're going to be here," she said. "We had a wonderful relationship when we were here earlier this summer with the people of New Hampshire, and I'm coming back to remind people about my pro-growth message. I'm committed to the Live Free or Die state, to the principles of the Live Free or Die state."

Ray Shakir, 62, of North Conway, said he's deciding between Bachmann, former House speaker Newt Gingrich and Atlanta businessman Herman Cain. "I'm certainly enamored of how she speaks with enthusiasm," he said after quizzing Bachmann about what approach she'd use in nominating Supreme Court justices.

Shakir said he doesn't mind that Bachmann hasn't spent much time in New Hampshire because he "tries to look at it from a national perspective." But he doesn't think she has much hope of winning the primary.

ACROSS THE NATION

Air and space museum reopens after DC protests

WASHINGTON (AP)—The National Air and Space Museum was open for business and crowded with visitors a day after demonstrators swarmed the building to protest a drone exhibit. Museum spokeswoman Isabel Lara said Sunday there were no changes to its security procedures. The museum closed early Saturday afternoon after security guards used pepper spray to repel more than 100 demonstrators who were told they could not enter the building while carrying signs. The spray sickened some.

Thrill-seekers to run with the bulls in Arizona

PHOENIX (AP)—The bulls are better tempered, slower and their horns have been blunted, and this definitely isn't Pamplona. Nonetheless, they are bulls, and nearly two dozen of them will be chasing after hundreds of humans on a quarter-mile track this coming weekend in the small town of Cave Creek, Ariz., despite objections from animal advocates and town officials. Cave Creek's run is loosely fashioned after the annual event in Spain in which thousands of daredevils trip over each other in a mad dash from angry bulls in the morning and then party in the streets until dawn. Gorings and tramplings are common, and 15 people have been killed since record-keeping started in 1924, most recently a 27-year-old Spanish runner who was gored in the chest and neck in 2009.

Good gourd! RI pumpkin tips scales at 1,661 lbs.

WARREN, R.I. (AP)—A boulder-sized pumpkin weighing 1,661 pounds has taken top honors at a New England regional contest, though it fell short of the world record. Joe Jutras of Scituate (siht-CHOO'-iht), R.I., sat on his prize-winning gourd Saturday and posed for photos after the annual Southern New England Giant Pumpkin Growers' Annual Weigh-off. His pumpkin fell 150 pounds shy of the world record of 1,810.5 pounds, set last year in Wisconsin.

Asia

Mao cap-wearing Philippine communist rebel is dead

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A popular Mao cap-wearing Filipino guerrilla, who gave a voice and face to one of Asia's longest-running Marxist insurgencies as its spokesman with a common-folk touch, has died of a heart attack, his comrades said Sunday. He was 64.

The outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines said Gregorio "Comrade Roger" Rosal died in a guerrilla zone in the country's north on June 22, but delayed the public announcement of his death until his daughters were notified. Reaching them was difficult because of intense military operations.

The communist party and its armed wing, the New People's Army, mourned Rosal's death in a statement, saying "his life of service to the revolution will serve as an inspiration to the people to carry forward their revolutionary struggles."

All Maoist guerrillas will pay a tribute with gun salutes on Oct. 15, the party said.

"He was the effective voice of the revolution," Netherlands-based rebel leader Luis Jalandoni told The Associated Press by telephone. "He was so loved by the masses and members of the media. He was always easy to reach for interviews."

While it hunted Rosal for years, the 120,000-strong military offered its condolences to Rosal's family Sunday, saying it once offered medical help when news of his failing health spread. Rosal turned down the offer.

A son of impoverished sugar plantation workers, Rosal became a trade union organizer and student activist before deciding to go underground in the mountainous Quezon region southeast of the capital, Manila, in the 1970s to join the fight for a Marxist state.

He was captured a year after dictator Ferdinand Marcos imposed martial rule in the Philippines in 1972, but escaped a few months later. While considered a celebrity even among his comrades, Rosal was among guerrilla leaders who were subjected to an unspecified punishment by the rebels for failing to take a strong stand against an internal purge of suspected military spies in the late 1980s.

Rosal served as rebel spokesman from the 1980s to the 1990s, using laptop computers, two-way radios and cellphones to bring guerrilla statements using the Tagalog dialect to households through radio and TV interviews. He debated passionately with military spokesmen over the radio and often arranged visits for journalists to rebel encampments, regaling them by playing his harmonica and shaking their hands.

He nearly died of typhoid fever in 1995 then suffered a series of strokes in succeeding years, gradually removing him from the limelight.

After the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, the Filipino guerrillas became a target of the U.S.-led global war on terror when Washington placed them on its list of terrorist organizations and urged nations to help wipe them out by denying them refuge and money.

AP

In this file photo taken Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004, rebel spokesman Gregorio Rosal gestures as he talks to journalists during a clandestine news conference in a communist New People's Army encampment in northern Luzon, Philippines.

But Rosal said then that the homegrown guerrillas were hardly affected because they survive on local contributions, attack government troops for weapons or buy guns from corrupt officers, and get "the best sons and daughters" as recruits from families suffering from poverty, landlessness and government neglect.

"The government is the No. 1 recruiter of the New People's Army," Rosal said.

While dodging military assaults, Rosal never ran out of wit and humor and constantly countered the military's portrayal of the rebels as murderous terrorists—a view shared by the U.S. government.

After a clandestine news conference in a pine-clad northern forest in 2004, Rosal pulled out a harmonica to entertain reporters.

"I'll provide the caption for you: the singing terrorist," he said as photographers captured the moment.

PH rebels free town mayor, 2 bodyguards

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (AP)—Communist guerrillas freed a town mayor and his two military guards Sunday after two months of jungle captivity in the southern Philippines in a move welcomed by the government after a major rebel attack last week provoked a new military offensive.

Rebel spokesperson Rubi del Mundo said New People's Army guerrillas handed Mayor Henry Dano and his two bodyguards to their families and officials after the three apologized for their roles in the government's counterinsurgency operations.

The three walked free near Trento town in southern Agusan del Sur province. Dano and his bodyguards were seized at gunpoint by the rebels last August from his house in Lingig town, where he served as mayor, in nearby Surigao del Sur province.

The Maoist guerrillas also freed on Saturday four jail guards they captured on July 21 during a rescue of a jailed comrade in southern Bukidnon province.

Alexander Padilla, who heads a government panel engaged in peace talks with the rebels, welcomed the releases of Dano and the jail guards, saying they were noncombatants whose kidnappings violated international humanitarian laws. Their families "have suffered enough," he said.

Police officials said they would pursue criminal charges against the kidnappers.

Del Mundo warned the mayor and his bodyguards could be snatched by the rebels again if they resume acts against the guerrillas.

The releases came after more than 200 guerrillas laid siege on three nickel mining complexes last Monday in Claver town in southern Surigao del Norte province. The rebels disarmed guards, briefly held employees and torched trucks, heavy equipment and company offices in nearly simultaneous attacks that have alarmed the local mining industry.

Those attacks, among the largest mounted by the rebels in recent years, sent the government scrambling to reassure mining companies and foreign investors by deploying hundreds of additional army troops to secure remote mines and hunt down the guerrillas.

The Marxist rebels, estimated to number more than 4,000, have continued attacks despite resuming talks this year aimed at settling one of Asia's longest-running communist insurgencies. Philippine officials said they would continue with peace negotiations with the rebels despite Monday's mine attacks.

Afghan lawmaker's hunger strike extends dispute

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—It was the eighth day of ousted Afghan parliamentarian Simeen Barakzai's hunger strike. Through chapped lips and in a rough voice, she said Sunday she would not drink or eat anything until President Hamid Karzai opened an investigation into vote fraud by the woman who has taken over her seat.

Her protest is the latest turn in a seemingly interminable dispute over who belongs in the Afghan parliament—still going on, more than a year after elections that were marred by fraud.

Fraud monitors discarded 1.3 million ballots from the poll—nearly a quarter of the total—and disqualified 19 winning candidates before results were finalized last fall. But many of the losers had argued that voters had been disenfranchised and pressured Karzai to revisit the results. Karzai eventually took the case to the courts, which ruled that 62 sitting parliamentarians should be removed, even though the court had no legal standing to change the results.

The accusations, investigations and law-bending have delayed work and threatened to undermine the legislature's legitimacy.

Barakzai is one of nine parliamentarians removed from their seats in August as part of a pragmatic but messy compromise that was meant to finally end the saga and let the lawmakers get to work. The U.N. and a host of international missions released statements welcoming the ruling by Afghan election officials.

Even so, that decision sparked a new round of protest and political maneuvering that only finally seemed ready to die down on Saturday when a group of boycotting parliamentarians returned to session.

But now, Barakzai's hunger strike appears likely to reopen the dispute all over again. A group of about 30 lawmakers—many of them in leadership positions in parliament—have called for Karzai to open a formal investigation into her case. They gathered in the small tent outside parliament where Barakzai lies on a cot on Sunday afternoon and told her that they were hopeful that Karzai would meet their demands.

The speaker of the lower house of parliament, Abdul Raouf Ibrahimi, said he spoke with Karzai on the phone earlier Sunday and said the president had promised to launch an investigation. Then he urged Barakzai to let them take her to a hospital, or at least to take a glucose drip.

She refused both.

"The president is making false promises," she said, crying. She said she would not break her fast until an independent investigation had started. And by independent, she explained, she meant she didn't want the Supreme Court or election officials involved. She wanted civil society groups or independent groups that had worked as election monitors involved.

Asked why she had chosen this form of protest, Barakzai said: "I don't have any other way. I don't have any people high up in the government."

Her plea was a sign of how little trust there is in government institutions in Afghanistan these days. Despite Karzai's pledges to clean up corruption and curtail cronyism since his own fraud-filled election in 2009, there has been little evidence of progress.

Afghanistan is very much a country ruled by presidential decree, with few checks on that power. When seven of Karzai's choices for ministerial posts were rejected by parliament, he appointed them as acting ministers.

The Supreme Court has been operating outside of regular Afghan law since the June 2010 expiration of the term of Chief Justice Abdul Salam Azimi. Karzai issued an emergency decree to extend Azimi's tenure, but never put the decree to parliament, which is required to approve all Supreme Court nominations.

And parliament is hamstrung by controversy over the vote. Barakzai's complaint is that the woman who now has been given her post as a representative for western Herat province had been previously disqualified for vote fraud.

ASIAN BRIEFS

NATO: 2 service members die in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—NATO says two of its service members have been killed in an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan. NATO did not provide any further details in its Sunday statement. It says the attack occurred on Saturday. Their deaths bring October's toll of foreign troops killed to six, with a total of 460 deaths so far this year. Afghan police say eight insurgents and a police officer have been killed in a separate incident in southwestern Nimroz province. Nimroz provincial police chief Gen. Abdul Jabar Perdali said the gunbattle took place Saturday, and that it lasted five hours.

SKorean activists launch leaflets toward NKorea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean activists have launched a new batch of propaganda leaflets toward North Korea despite Pyongyang's threat to open fire. The activists launched balloons carrying about 200,000 anti-North Korea leaflets and one-dollar bills over the border on Monday, the 66th anniversary of the founding of the North Korean ruling Workers' Party. North Korea warned over the weekend that it would fire at South Korea if leaflets were launched on the anniversary. The North has issued similar threats against leafletting in recent years.

NZ city hit by another quake; no reports of damage

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—The earthquake-rattled city of Christchurch has been shaken by another powerful temblor. The magnitude-4.7 quake struck just after 8:30 p.m. Sunday and there were no initial reports of significant damage or injuries. The country's prime minister, John Key, was in Christchurch watching a televised All Blacks rugby match with other fans at the time. The game was being played in Auckland.

World

24 dead in worst Cairo riots since Mubarak ouster

CAIRO (AP)—Flames lit up downtown Cairo, where massive clashes raged Sunday, drawing Christians angry over a recent church attack, hard-line Muslims and Egyptian security forces. At least 24 people were killed and more than 200 injured in the worst sectarian violence since the uprising that ousted Hosni Mubarak in February.

The rioting lasted late into the night, bringing out a deployment of more than 1,000 security forces and armored vehicles to defend the state television building along the Nile, where the trouble began. The military clamped a curfew on the area until 7 a.m.

The clashes spread to nearby Tahrir Square, drawing thousands of people to the vast plaza that served as the epicenter of the protests that ousted Mubarak. On Sunday night, they battled each other with rocks and firebombs, some tearing up pavement for ammunition and others collecting stones in boxes.

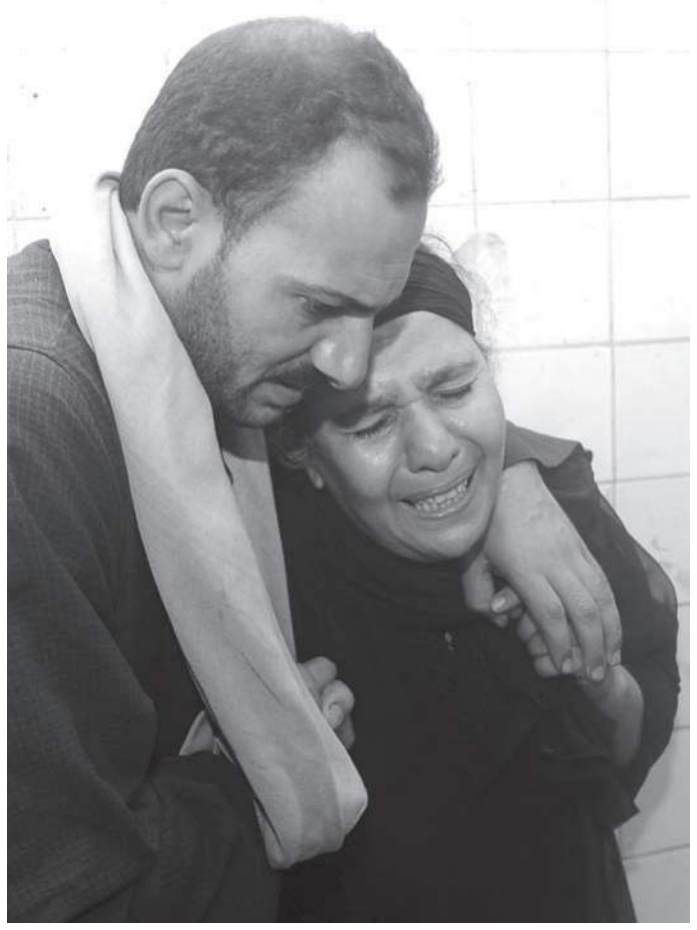
At one point, an armored security van sped into the crowd, striking a half-dozen protesters and throwing some into the air. Protesters retaliated by setting fire to military vehicles, a bus and private cars, sending flames rising into the night sky.

After midnight, mobs roamed downtown streets, attacking cars they suspected had Christian passengers. In many areas, there was no visible police or army presence to confront or stop them.

Christians, who make up about 10 percent of Egypt's 80 million people, blame the country's ruling military council for being too lenient on those behind a spate of anti-Christian attacks since Mubarak's ouster. As Egypt undergoes a chaotic power transition and security vacuum in the wake of the uprising, the Coptic Christian minority is particularly worried about the show of force by ultraconservative Islamists.

The Christian protesters said their demonstration began as a peaceful attempt to sit in at the television building. But then, they said, they came under attack by thugs in plainclothes who rained stones down on them and fired pellets.

"The protest was peaceful. We wanted to hold a sit-in, as usual," said Essam Khalili, a protester wearing a white shirt with a cross on it. "Thugs attacked us and a military vehicle jumped over a sidewalk and ran over at least 10 people. I saw them."



AP

A woman grieves at a hospital morgue for protesters killed during clashes with Egyptian security forces in Cairo Egypt, Sunday, Oct. 9, 2011.

Wael Roufail, another protester, corroborated the account. "I saw the vehicle running over the protesters. Then they opened fired at us," he said.

Khalili said protesters set fire to army vehicles when they saw them hitting the protesters.

Ahmed Yahia, a Muslim resident who lives near the TV building, said he saw the military vehicle plow into protesters. "I saw a man's head split into two halves and a second body flattened when the armored vehicle ran over it. When some Muslims saw the blood they joined the Christians against the army," he said.

Television footage showed the military vehicle slamming into the crowd. Coptic protesters were shown attacking a soldier, while a priest tried to protect him. One soldier collapsed in tears as ambulances rushed to the scene to take away the injured.

At least 24 people were killed in the clashes, Health Ministry official Hisham Sheiha said on state TV.

State media reported that Egypt's interim Cabinet was holding an emergency session to discuss the situation.

Writing in his Facebook page, Prime Minister Essam Sharaf said: "What is happening now are not clashes between Muslims and Christians but attempts to spark chaos and divisions. I call on all the children of the nation who care about its future, not to comply with calls of sedition, because it is fire that will burn us all."

Anti-Gadhafi fighters make gains in Sirte

SIRTE, Libya (AP)—Libya's revolutionary forces seized a convention center Sunday that had served as a key base for fighters loyal to Moammar Gadhafi in the fugitive leader's hometown, as they squeezed remaining regime loyalists in the besieged coastal city.

The inability to take Sirte, the most important remaining stronghold of Gadhafi supporters, more than six weeks after anti-Gadhafi fighters seized the capital has stalled efforts by Libya's new leaders to set a timeline for elections and move forward with a transition to democracy.

Gadhafi supporters also hold the inland enclave of Bani Walid, where revolutionary forces also reported key gains after weeks of faltering advances that resulted in part from the challenging terrain of desert hills and steep valleys. Bani Walid is believed to be harboring high-level figures in the old regime.

The transitional leadership has said it will declare liberation after Sirte's capture because that will mean it holds all of the seaports and harbors in the oil-rich Mediterranean coastal country.

Libya's de facto leader, Mustafa Abdul-Jalil, head of the governing National Transitional Council, said Sunday that anti-Gadhafi fighters have made huge gains in Sirte and Bani Walid, southeast of the capital.

"I do believe, God willing, that the liberation of these cities will happen within this week," Abdul-Jalil told reporters in Tripoli.

He said that revolutionary forces in Sirte have punched their way into the city center in fierce fighting and are now cleaning out pockets of resistance.

In Bani Walid, advancing fighters drove Gadhafi forces out of the airport, said Abdullah Kenshil, who led failed talks for the revolutionaries in search of a peaceful surrender of the city.

"The takeover of Bani Walid is imminent," he said. "The fighters are only one kilometer from the heart of Bani Walid."

He claimed that Gadhafi's son Seif al-Islam was seen on Saturday distributing cash to his loyalists in Bani Walid. "We are 100 percent sure that he is inside, at least until last night," Kenshil said.

Located 250 miles (400 kilometers) southeast of Tripoli, Sirte is key to the physical unity of the nation of some 6 million people, since it lies roughly in the center of the coastal plain where most Libyans live, blocking the easiest routes between east and west.

After a three-week siege from the outskirts, revolutionary forces launched an all-out assault on Sirte on Friday, pounding the city with tank shells, field cannons, rockets and heavy machine guns. Loyalists have put up fierce resistance, and fired back with sniper rifles, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades.

On Sunday, the Ouagadougou Convention Center, an ornate complex that Gadhafi frequently used for international summits, lay in ruins. Throughout the siege, Gadhafi fighters used the walled complex as a base and stronghold. From there they were able to dominate surrounding neighborhoods and assault revolutionaries trying to enter Sirte.

At the nearby Ibn Sina Hospital, scores of wounded civilians crowded the corridors, lying on gurneys and floors to protect them from the shelling and gunfire. There was no electricity or water, and a handful of medical students and nurses were the only medical staff.

Revolutionary fighters roamed the hallways checking IDs and detained about 25 people suspected of being Gadhafi fighters or mercenaries.

"These are all Gadhafi people. They are snipers and we have captured them," said Ahmed Rahman, a field commander, as his soldiers cuffed a suspected pro-Gadhafi sniper.

Tunisian police stop hardline attack on TV station

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP)—Tunisian police on Sunday arrested dozens of Islamist demonstrators set on attacking the offices of a television channel that had shown the award-winning film "Persepolis," officials said.

The assault is the latest in a rise in attacks against perceived symbols of secularism by hardcore Muslims in Tunisia ahead of this month's election. Once suppressed by the former regime, conservative Muslims are increasingly making themselves heard in the country's politics.

Interior Ministry spokesman Hichem Meddeb said police blocked the attackers before they could reach the offices of the Nessma private television channel in the center of Tunis and arrested around 50 of them.

Meddeb said there were also casualties, without specifying how many, and emphasized "authorities' determination to oppose troublemakers."

The head of Nessma, Nabil Karoui, said that the attackers were angered by the channel's recent showing of "Persepolis," Marjane Satrapi's moving and humorous adaptation of her graphic novels about growing up during and after Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution. He said they consider it hostile to their religious convictions.

The film won the jury prize at the 2007 Cannes Film Festival.

"These extremists want to impose a new dictatorship," Karoui told The Associated Press. "We are channel for liberty, modernism and democracy. We will not back down and will continue to follow our independent editorial line."

Later in the afternoon there were new clashes between police and conservative Islamists in the capital's lower income neighborhood of Jebel Lahmar near the campus of Tunis University, according to eyewitnesses.

Hundreds of demonstrators left the mosque following afternoon prayers and threw rocks at police who responded with tear gas, according to local resident Mokhtar Ouertani.

He said the protest was over the broadcast of Persepolis as well as a state policy banning the conservative Islamic face veil for university students.

Tunisians are set to hold landmark elections for a constitutional assembly in just two weeks after overthrowing their long-serving dictator in a popular uprising in January.

The ensuing nine months have been filled with unrest and demonstrations as well as the rise of a new ultraconservative group of Muslims that had kept a low profile under the largely secular regime of former President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali.

Salafists, as the conservatives are known, attacked a movie theater showing film they deemed insulting to Islam on June and just last Thursday a university dean said his campus was also attacked.

Moncef Ben Abdeljelil, head of Sousse University's school of humanities, said four people armed with knives threatened university staff because they would not enroll students wearing the conservative Muslim face veil.

WORLD BRIEFS

Quartet tries to restart Israeli-Palestinian talks

BRUSSELS (AP)—An international group of envoys will contact the Israelis and the Palestinians shortly to try to restart Mideast peace talks on hold since 2008. Envoys from what the Quartet—the United States, the European Union, the United Nations and Russia—met Sunday in Brussels to hash out a strategy as international pressure to reach a peace deal mounts. The Palestinians and Israelis have angered each other in recent weeks—the Palestinians by requesting U.N. recognition as a state and the Israelis by announcing they would build 1,100 new housing units in east Jerusalem.

Early returns back giving Paraguay expats the vote

ASUNCION, Paraguay (AP)—A proposal to allow Paraguayans living abroad to vote in elections at home won overwhelming support Sunday after most ballots were counted from a lightly attended national referendum. Electoral officials said the measure was supported by nearly 78 percent of the ballots counted, with the rest opposed. They said more than 90 percent of the nation's 5,309 polling stations had reported. The electoral agency estimated only about 10 percent of the South American country's 3 million eligible voters cast ballots Sunday.

Moderate leftist tops French presidential primary

PARIS (AP)—A moderate French leftist once dismissed as soft as a strawberry dominated nationwide primary voting Sunday, and emerged the top likely challenger to the divisive and impulsive Nicolas Sarkozy for the nation's presidency. Pollsters say Francois Hollande, a longtime Socialist leader who urged his party to embrace European integration, could easily dislodge the little-loved Sarkozy as president. Sunday's unusual Socialist Party primary produced the first electoral proof of Hollande's popularity. But Hollande faces a tough runoff next week against the author of France's 35-hour workweek, party stalwart Martine Aubry, as both seek to solve voters' economic worries and prove their leftist mettle while maintaining party unity.

Focus

It appears necessary that there should be a limit to all riches, yet in actual fact we observe that the opposite takes place; for all men engaged in wealth-getting try to increase their money to an unlimited amount.
—Aristotle

AP

In this Monday, Oct. 3, 2011 file photo High school students play cards as they block a main avenue during a protest outside the Greek parliament in Athens.

For Greeks, future is a void

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—To find symbolism in the Greek financial crisis, just go to the source. The national image on the two-euro coin in Greece depicts an ancient myth about the abduction of Europa, a Phoenician princess, by Zeus, the king of the gods in the form of a bull.

The saga known as the "Rape of Europa," whose protagonist rides the bull's back in an image reproduced by artists over the centuries, mirrors the turbulent journey of Greece and the rest of Europe, hitched together in an agonizing spiral that seems to go on and on and on.

The crude parallel ends there, however—Zeus turned into a human, had his way with Europa, and she bore him children. The last chapter in modern Greece, meanwhile, is still blank. Will there be a debt default, with its ominous implications for the global economy? How long will Greeks endure the erosion of what was a good life?

The future is a void, and anger and helplessness dig deep in the Greek psyche. Joblessness is climbing and essential services such as health care and policing are losing resources.

The crisis may pale beside the bloody conflict or poverty in Libya or Afghanistan, but the hardship is as much psychological as economic. It is the shock of undercut expectations, the loss of benefits and prospects once taken for granted as part of the European contract.

The mood now resembles the plot of "Groundhog Day," a 1993 movie about a man who wakes up to the same day over and over again.

"We don't see how we can escape from this problem," said Kostas Theofanides, engineering manager for British Petroleum in Greece. He spoke Thursday evening at a resort hotel on the Athenian coast, where Greek and German business executives, nametags on their suits, mingled during a forum that hummed with talk of investing in a country on the edge.

Greeks, whose previous governments were accused of hiding the extent of the country's ballooning budget deficit, now talk with withering honesty about their problems. Even at investment forums. Theofanides said his compatriots are angry, unsafe and depressed, and wonder how long they have to put up their daily stew of taxes, austerity, unemployment and general uncertainty.

He ticked off the possibilities: Two years? Three years? Ten years, 25 years? Who knows.

But there is plenty of blame to go around, and nobody is exempt—from free-spending Greeks, to the politicians they elected, to Germany and the international lenders with their dire prescriptions of cuts and then more cuts.

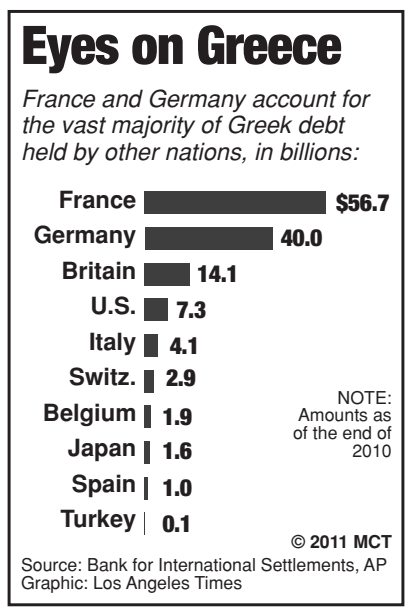
With a sly smile, Dimitrios Gardikiotis, director at an information technology company, suggested Germany had been plotting Greece's downfall for the past 20 years, luring its junior economic partner into dissolute ways so that it could barge in and buy assets on the cheap.

"'I'm preparing your economic death. Then I will buy you and your wife and your children,'" said Gardikiotis, imagining what he thought might be a German viewpoint. He said it in such a disarming manner that it was hard to tell what he really thought.

"Greeks actually point their fingers at others, not at themselves," Gardikiotis said. "Of course, there are certain mistakes, and everybody has to recognize their responsibility."

History is to blame as well, in some Greek quarters.

Its students point to centuries of Ottoman rule that ended in independence in 1829, giving other European nations a headstart in building democracy. Then bouts of civil strife stunted progress. The king and the prime minister sparred during the National Schism in the early 20th century, the Western-backed government fought the communists in the late 1940s, and a military junta ruled between 1967 and 1974.



For a few resentful Greeks, there are always the Nazis, who occupied Greece during World War II. On Thursday, several people in uniforms, including a man doing his best to impersonate Adolf Hitler, turned up with a Nazi flag and other insignia outside the German Embassy.

"The Germans owe us millions in war reparations, let them pay what they owe us," said 75-year-old Demetris Kollatos, a fixture on the protest circuit who vaguely recalled the German occupation of Athens during his childhood. "In their greed to get everything, they'll lose everything."

Mostly, there is grim confusion and numbing fatigue. Greece is struggling to meet the terms of a €110 billion ($146 billion) international bailout from other eurozone countries and the International Monetary Fund, but there is growing doubt about whether it can dodge a default. The country is in a third year of recession, with another on the way.

The government is tightening up on tax evaders, but some edicts, including those about what receipts taxpayers need to save in order to avoid penalties, have changed several times. A columnist in the English-language Athens News, who draws on historical figures for his alias, Alcibiades Ouranos, predicted a looming deluge of bureaucracy:

"Thing A should be dealt like that, but we acknowledge that B, C and D are unfairly hurt by that legislation, so we declare that B should do that, C should do something else and D should do that, but only if they do not fall into category E, have F blahblahblah. So bring us statements from agency G, H and I who monitor such things, to establish that you are indeed a B and not an A."

Some Greeks think they are venturing onto new psychological terrain after nearly two years in which the concept of crisis, which should be exceptional by definition, is as banal as the protests and strikes that convulse Athens from time to time.

Despoina Ergenidou is director of the Numismatic Museum, a monument to the coins and currency of ancient Greece that is housed in the mansion where Heinrich Schliemann, the German archaeologist who excavated Troy, lived in the late 19th century.

"It's not just the economy. It's ethical values," she said in an interview in her office, flanked by a garden in downtown Athens. "They are losing what they believe. I don't mean religion. We were working for something better, we believed in things, people, good ideas. We were working for those ideas. It's not like that anymore."

In ancient times, Ergenidou said, there were no banks, so people hoarded coins in hiding places, in pots or pouches, behind walls and under floors. Many families survived war and other hardships through their domestic economies, a garden to grow vegetables or some farm animals.

Those were truly hard times. They were also glorious times, when hundreds of cities and kings minted coins in different denominations and metals. There were tetradrachms and staters and obols, gold and silver and brass, and coins with images of turtles, foals and owls.

It is tempting to find relevance in the words of ancient Greek philosophers to Greece's modern predicament, in which avarice played a star role. Aristotle recognized the value of money as a tool for the interchange of goods, beyond barter, but warned of its artifice and the imbalances generated by seeking cash without restraint.

"It appears necessary that there should be a limit to all riches, yet in actual fact we observe that the opposite takes place; for all men engaged in wealth-getting try to increase their money to an unlimited amount," he wrote.

Menelaos Hadjicostis contributed to this report.

Overdrive

Automakers have miles to go on fuel standards

By TERRY BOX
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DALLAS—Big pickups with small V-6 engines—the red-haired orphans of truck country—always occupied the back rows at Prestige Ford in Garland, Texas.

No one but fleet buyers and bargain hunters ever wanted them anyway.

But this year, as automakers reach for every tool to prepare for dramatically tougher fuel economy standards in 2016, those orphans are shoving aside king V-8s, even in bigger-is-better Texas.

"We'd put them (V-6s) on the front row today if we could get them," said Randall Reed, who owns nine dealerships in Texas, including Prestige and Park Cities Ford/Lincoln in Dallas.

The challenges ahead are daunting.

Cars' fuel economy will need to increase more than 29 percent, from the current 30.2 miles per gallon to a 39 mpg average by model year 2016.

Truck mileage must increase 27.6 percent—though that number is misleading because no full-size pickup can even achieve the current standard of 23.5 mpg, including hybrids.

And those are just the first steps. By 2025, automakers' fleets will need to average 54.5 mpg before exemptions for full-size trucks are figured into the complex formula.

"It's definitely a radical step up from where we were," said Mike Omotoso, senior manager of global powertrain forecasting at J.D. Power and Associates. "The party's over."

Consider this: Only two of the top 10-selling vehicles in the U.S. last year—both cars—averaged 30 mpg. The rest didn't even meet current standards.

Called corporate average fuel economy, or CAFE, the federal standards were enacted decades ago to cut the nation's dependence on foreign oil and, more recently, to reduce greenhouse gases.

For years, CAFE standards have remained flat, allowing automakers to focus on sexier—and more profitable—attractions such as bigger, more powerful engines.

Manufacturers often had to pay millions in fines for not meeting CAFE standards, but they were considered just a cost of doing business.

As a result, Todd Turner has little sympathy for the auto industry's CAFE struggles.

"Think about the millions that manufacturers sunk into size and performance over the last two decades," said Turner, president of Car Concepts of Thousand Oaks, Calif. "It could have been devoted to fuel economy."

Still, most automakers now need to invest billions to improve fuel economy—and those costs will likely be passed on to consumers.

Fuel-saving technology, more efficient engines and transmissions, and other equipment will cost an average of $2,700 per vehicle, Omotoso said. What is still unclear is how much of that will be added to the sticker prices.

"We could have a real disconnect where people will perceive that they are getting less car and being charged more," said George Hoffer, a business professor at the University of Richmond who follows the auto industry. "The government is effectively ordering all this technology. What if buyers won't pay for it?"

Ford Motor Co., which, like many automakers, still makes most of its profit from trucks, is encouraged by the early success of its new V-6 engines—though the company realizes that even sales stars like the EcoBoost V-6 are just a start.

"This is the first time since 1985 that we've sold more V-6s than V-8s—a very, very pleasant surprise that sets us up to keep building toward those (2016) standards," said Doug Scott, truck marketing manager.

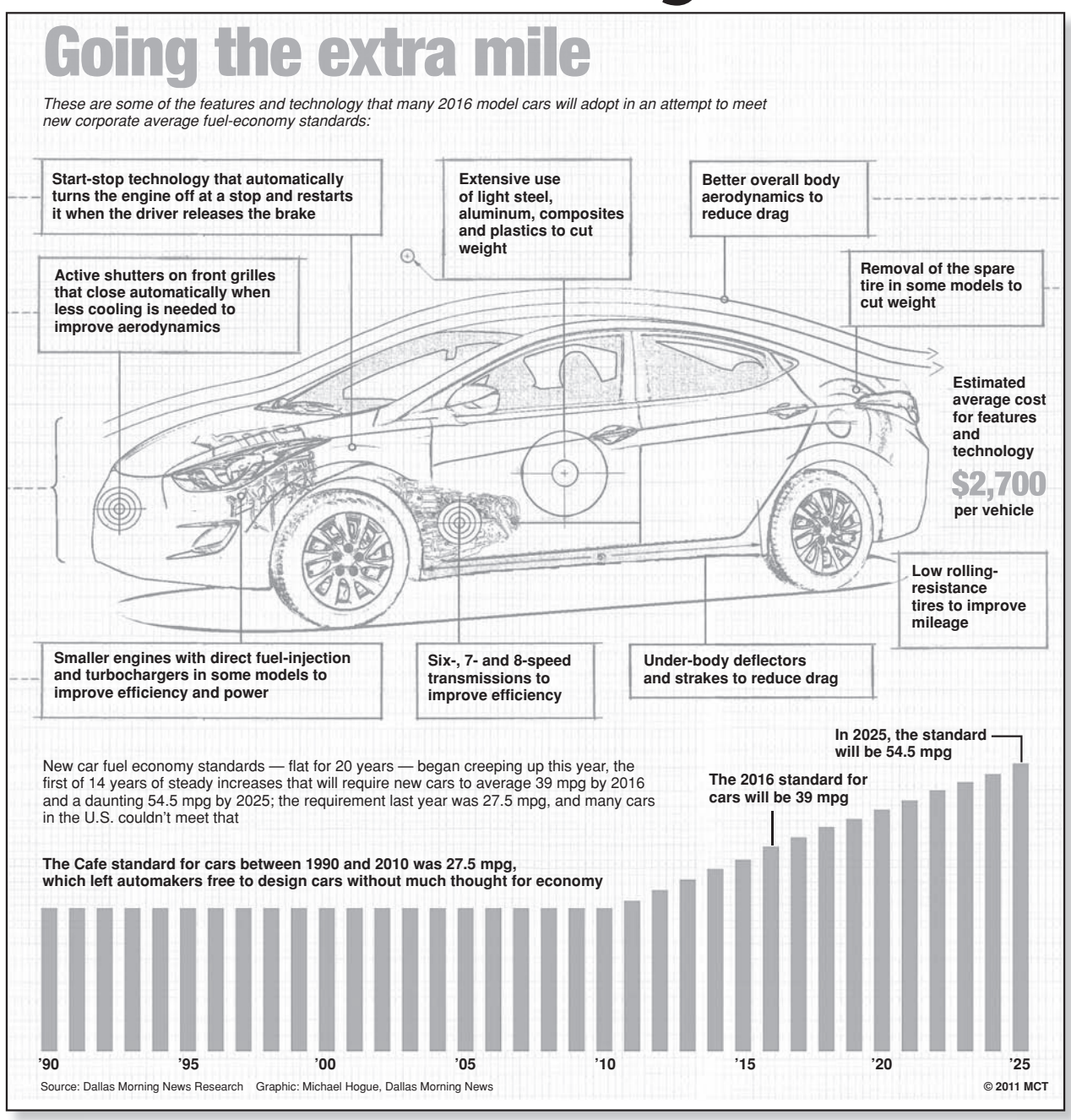
Throughout the industry, low rolling-resistance tires and six-, seven- and eight-speed transmissions will be common. Many cars and trucks may also have stop-start systems that automatically turn off the engine when a vehicle stops and restart it when the driver releases the brakes.

In addition, manufacturers will be pushing far more hybrids, lightweight European-style diesels and even a few more electric vehicles.

But will anyone want 2016's array of fuel-sippers—particularly if the economy continues to limp along and gas remains around $4 a gallon?

"That's on everybody's mind," said Pat Lobb, who owns Pat Lobb Toyota and Scion of McKinney, Texas, one of the state's largest Toyota dealers. "Manufacturers have to comply with what the government says, but the consumer doesn't. He votes with his checkbook."

An average increase of $2,700 in new vehicle prices "would be a real hard sell," Lobb said.


Going the extra mile
These are some of the features and technology that many 2016 model cars will adopt in an attempt to meet new corporate average fuel-economy standards:
Start-stop technology that automatically turns the engine off at a stop and restarts it when the driver releases the brake
Extensive use of light steel, aluminum, composites and plastics to cut weight
Better overall body aerodynamics to reduce drag
Active shutters on front grilles that close automatically when less cooling is needed to improve aerodynamics
Removal of the spare tire in some models to cut weight
Estimated average cost for features and technology
$2,700
per vehicle
Low rolling-resistance tires to improve mileage
Smaller engines with direct fuel-injection and turbochargers in some models to improve efficiency and power
Six-, 7- and 8-speed transmissions to improve efficiency
Under-body deflectors and strakes to reduce drag
New car fuel economy standards — flat for 20 years — began creeping up this year, the first of 14 years of steady increases that will require new cars to average 39 mpg by 2016 and a daunting 54.5 mpg by 2025; the requirement last year was 27.5 mpg, and many cars in the U.S. couldn't meet that
In 2025, the standard will be 54.5 mpg
The 2016 standard for cars will be 39 mpg
The Cafe standard for cars between 1990 and 2010 was 27.5 mpg, which left automakers free to design cars without much thought for economy
'90
'95
'00
'05
'10
'15
'20
'25
Source: Dallas Morning News Research Graphic: Michael Hogue, Dallas Morning News
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Q&A Failure to rotate tires can cause 'cupping'

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: With only 12,000 miles on my tires, I'm told they are cupping and I should have them replaced. Since the tread is good with the exception of the "scalloping," do I need to buy new tires? I bought the car new three years ago and thought I would not need to be concerned about buying tires for several years.

ANSWER: Were the tires rotated every 4,000 to 6,000 miles? I suspect not. With today's longer oil change intervals, it's a good idea to rotate tires at each oil change.

At this point, you could rotate the tires and live with the situation for the remainder of the tire's life. The only concern, as long as there's significant tread across the entire face of the tread, is noise and continuing wear from the cupped pattern. And no, rotating the tire now won't wear the cupping pattern off the tire.

The other possibility is to have the cupped tires "trued," where a special machine shaves the tread surface down until it is even again.

Or buy new tires and remember to rotate them every oil change.

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: My daughter bought a 2003 Honda Accord about a year ago. It has 123,000 miles on it, runs great and is very dependable. The past three months, she noticed unusual oil use. Between oil changes she has to add 4 to 5 quarts of oil. Our mechanic did not find any oil leaks. It does not appear to burn oil from the looks of the exhaust. Someone suggested changing the PCV valve, but the oil is still disappearing. Any ideas?

A: Assuming the engine still runs well, there are several possible explanations for the sudden, excessive oil consumption. An oil leak from the valve cover or cylinder head gasket might be dripping onto the hot exhaust manifold and burning off—typically there would be a noticeable smell from this. A blocked or clogged positive crankcase ventilation (PCV) port or leaking PCV hose could allow the crankcase to pressurize, forcing oil into the combustion chambers, where it would burn. The uniform distribution of the excess oil in this case might not create a noticeable amount of smoke from the exhaust. And finally, significant internal wear—oil control rings, piston and cylinder could allow excess oil into the combustion chambers.

With the engine warmed up and idling, slightly pinch the PCV hose. You should hearing a click sound from the valve each time you pinch it.

Since oil is relatively inexpensive, it's worth a little more detective work to identify the source of the oil loss before giving up on the vehicle.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, *is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at:* Star Tribune, *425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.*

When it comes to transmissions, no owner's manual in pickups

By STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

QUESTION: You recently wrote about a minivan that is offered with a manual transmission. I can understand why that doesn't make a lot of sense, but recently I was shopping for a new full-sized pickup truck, and was surprised that I couldn't find one on any dealer's lot with a manual transmission. I have always had manuals in my trucks. I'd like to know why they have fallen out of favor.—Jim, Clermont, Fla.

ANSWER: You are absolutely right. The top-selling 2012 Ford F-150 offers four different engines, but only one transmission: a six-speed automatic. The Chevrolet Silverado has two transmission choices, a four-speed or six-speed automatic, and hasn't offered a manual since 2006. Chrysler's Ram 1500 has an entry-level model with the 3.7-liter V-6 engine, and even it has a standard four-speed automatic. Toyota, one of the last holdouts, has an all-automatic lineup for its 2012 Tundra, and Nissan has never used a manual in its Titan.

There are three central reasons. The main one is that so few people wanted manuals on trucks that it wasn't worth it for manufacturers to keep building them, and resale value is lower for a manual-transmission pickup. Second, automatics have gotten so good that the manual no longer has a fuel-mileage advantage. And three, even when trucks like the F-150 offered manuals and automatics, the automatic was typically rated to tow heavier loads, so even that advantage has been erased. That said, on the heaviest-duty trucks, manuals are still a viable alternative, and compact trucks like the 2012 Chevrolet Colorado still offer a manual.

Steven Cole Smith is the automotive editor at the Orlando Sentinel *in Florida. Send questions to scsmith@orlandosentinel.com.*

Life & Style

McCartney weds in nostalgia-filled ceremony

LONDON (AP)—A hint of autumnal Beatlemania was in the air Sunday as Paul McCartney, for the second time in his improbable life, climbed the steps of venerable Old Marylebone Town Hall to take himself a bride.

True, thousands of heartbroken female fans crowded the columned building in 1969 when he married Linda Eastman, and only a few hundred showed up Sunday as he wed another American, Nancy Shevell, at the very same registry office.

But the feeling this time was not regret at the loss of a bachelor heartthrob. Instead there was joy that McCartney, regarded as a national treasure and revered the world over, seemed happy again.

The 69-year-old former Beatle appeared proud, content and eager to share his joy with the crowd, raising his bride's hand in triumph as he walked down the steps after they became man and wife in a simple civil ceremony attended by close family and friends, including drummer Ringo Starr and Barbara Walters, a second cousin of the bride.

"I feel absolutely wonderful," McCartney told fans as he arrived at his home after the ceremony. He was expected to sing a new song he had composed for his bride at the reception.

Gone was the memory of McCartney's terribly unhappy marriage to Heather Mills, which ended in 2008 in an ugly public divorce. Remembered was his marriage to Eastman, a serene union that lasted nearly three decades until her life was cut short by breast cancer, leaving McCartney alone and adrift despite his fame and wealth.

The ceremony Sunday afternoon was everything his wedding to Mills was not: simple, understated, almost matter of fact. By contrast, McCartney and Mills married in an over-the-top lavish spectacle at a remote Irish castle that was disrupted several times by news helicopters flying overhead, hoping for a glimpse of the A-list guests

AP

Former Beatle Paul McCartney and American heiress Nancy Shevell exit Marylebone Town Hall in central London following their wedding Sunday Oct 9 2011.

This time, the smiles seemed genuine. The affection—and rose petals and confetti—showered on McCartney and his bride captured his particular place in British life.

Long gone are the days when the Beatles divided Britain between young and old, or between hippies and straights. The band is revered as part of a glorious musical and cultural era when Britain seemed a more confident place. There was no controversy whatsoever when McCartney received a knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II in 1997.

Today Sir Paul—or Macca, as he's usually known—is celebrated as a musical legend who is still composing and releasing CDs, even if they no longer routinely shoot to No. 1 on the charts. His forays into opera, ballet, painting and poetry have not been critical successes, but none of these have tarnished his reputation.

Shevell, 51, appeared radiant and composed in an elegant, ivory gown cut just above the knee. She wore a white flower in her long dark hair, and only light makeup and lipstick.

The dress was designed by McCartney's daughter, Stella, a star in the fashion world who also helped concoct the three-course vegetarian feast served to guests at the reception at McCartney's home in St. John's Wood, a property he bought in 1965, when the Beatles were topping the charts with metronomic regularity.

McCartney, who has long admitted to tinting his hair to keep out the gray, looked youthful in a well-cut blue suit and pale blue, skinny tie.

The couple married on what would have been band mate John Lennon's 71st birthday. Some guests speculated that Lennon would have been among the guests had he lived, with the rift between them having healed.

The wedding party included Beatrice, McCartney's young daughter with Mills, who had been expected to serve as flower girl.

McCartney is credited for having survived a number of tragedies—the 1980 murder of one-time songwriting partner Lennon, the loss of his beloved first wife Linda, the 2001 death of guitarist George Harrison and the public breakdown of his marriage to Mills—with his upbeat nature intact.

Mills, a much younger model who had lost part of her leg when she was hit by a motorcycle, tried to battle McCartney in the court of public opinion during their divorce. She accused him of cruelty and sought a gargantuan $250 million settlement.

But her charges against McCartney didn't stick. Few if any fans turned against him, and the divorce court judge ruled against her, calling her demands exorbitant and unfair.

The very public spat opened McCartney's vast fortune to unprecedented public scrutiny. Long rumored to be pop's first billionaire, he was found to have assets worth about $800 million, including works by Picasso and Renoir and luxury real estate in the United States, Britain and elsewhere.

His wealth reflects in part his incredible global popularity—in recent years he has filled stadiums from Rio to Russia, producing tens of millions of dollar of revenue with each tour.

Shevell, who is independently wealthy and quite successful in her own right, is not seen by the British public as being interested in McCartney's fortune.

Robots take title as 'Real Steel' earns $27.3M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Boxing robots are the undisputed champions at the weekend box office.

Hugh Jackman's "Real Steel," set in a near-future when robot fighters have replaced humans in the ring, debuted at No. 1 with $27.3 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

A DreamWorks release distributed by Disney, "Real Steel" added $22.1 million in 19 overseas markets for a worldwide total of $49.4 million. The movie casts Jackman as a former boxer reluctantly thrown together with his young son as they turn a junkyard robot into a world-class contender.

George Clooney's political saga "The Ides of March" was the runner-up, opening at No. 2 with $10.4 million. The Sony release stars Ryan Gosling as an aide to a presidential candidate (Clooney) caught up in scandal. Clooney also directed.

The previous No. 1 movie, the Warner Bros. family film "Dolphin Tale," slipped to No. 3 with $9.2 million, raising its domestic total to $49.1 million.

Males accounted for two-thirds of the audience for "Real Steel," though Jackman's sex appeal and a romantic subplot involving co-star Evangeline Lilly was a draw for women, said Dave Hollis, Disney's head of distribution. The movie brought in a solid mix of couples and parents with children, he said.

"The men might have been more attracted to this idea of boxing robots and the Rock `Em Sock `Em part of it. For women, it was more Hugh and the Hugh and Evangeline angle," Holis said. "For families, it's this father-son story and the somewhat redemptive rise to glory toward the end."

"The Ides of March" presents an acting dream team, with Academy Award winners Clooney, Philip Seymour Hoffman and Marisa Tomei in great form opposite Oscar nominees Gosling and Paul Giamatti.

"It's one thing to have a great cast of actors like we have in this film, but it's really cool watching them chew it up," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. **"Real Steel,"** $27.3 million ($22.1 million international).
2. **"The Ides of March,"** $10.4 million.
3. **"Dolphin Tale,"** $9.2 million.
4. **"Moneyball,"** $7.5 million.
5. **"50/50,"** $5.5 million.
6. **"Courageous,"** $4.6 million.
7. **"The Lion King,"** $4.55 million ($7.3 million international).
8. **"Dream House,"** $4.5 million.
9. **"What's Your Number?",** $3.1 million ($2.8 million international).
10. **"Abduction,"** $2.9 million ($4 million international).

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Real Steel
Friday 4:30 7:30 10:00
Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30
Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:30
Hugh Jackman, Dakota Goyo
Science fiction/Drama • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
A retired pugilist transitions to the business side of the ropes after human boxers are replaced by robotic ones in director Shawn Levy's feature-length adaptation of the Twilight Zone episode "Steel." Charlie Kenton (Hugh Jackman) was fighting for the title when the sport of boxing was changed forever. Now, instead of humans duking it out for the masses, huge, powerful steel robots trade blows in the ring. As a result, former gladiator Charlie has been forced into the role of two-bit promoter, piecing together cut-rate fighting bots from scrap metal as he makes the rounds on the underground boxing circuit.

Dream House
Friday 4:05 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05
Daniel Craig, Naomi Watts
Thriller • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
A successful New York writer (Daniel Craig) discovers that the country holds just as much menace as the big city after moving his family to a cozy New England town and discovering that their gorgeous new home was once the site of a brutal murder. The closer the writer and his wife (Rachel Weisz) get to their new neighbor (Naomi Watts), the more that details begin to emerge about the slaying of a devoted mother and her two children. Jim Sheridan (In America, Brothers) directs a script by David Loucka (The Dream Team, Problem Child).

What's Your Number?
Friday 4:20 7:20 9:40
Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:40
Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:20
Anna Faris, Chris Evans
Comedy • Rated R

Abduction
Friday 4:15 7:15 9:50
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:50
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:15
Taylor Lautner, Alfred Molina
Thriller • Rated PG 13

Dolphin Tales
Friday 4:00 7:00 9:30
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00
Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd
Children's/family • Rated PG

Killer Elite
Friday 4:10 7:10 9:45
Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:45
Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:10
Robert De Niro, Clive Owen, Jason Statham
Action • Rated R

Contagion
Friday 4:25 7:25 9:55
Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:25
Matt Damon, Marion Cottilard
Action • Rated PG 13
NO PASSES NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE • R-RATED FILMS REQUIRE PHOTO I.D.
www.gohollywood.com

Singles needing volunteer help have many options to choose

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I read the letter from "On My Own in Bloomington, Ind." (Aug. 5), who needed a ride to her colonoscopy appointment but didn't have transportation. Your suggestions were admirable, but there is another service you should be aware of.

Many states have a 2-1-1 Information and Referral Service, often sponsored by the local United Way. It has trained information and referral specialists available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to listen to individuals' needs or questions, help callers make informed decisions, and link them to a variety of community resources that fit their needs.

Those needs could be anything from a volunteer driver for a medical appointment to help caring for an aging relative, consumer help, child-care services, finding a local food shelf, domestic abuse shelter or chemical dependency treatment. When you don't know whom to call, call 2-1-1. It is available to help you find answers confidentially.

LYNETTA IN DULUTH, MINN.

DEAR LYNETTA: My readers never cease to amaze me. You always come through with all kinds of suggestions for any situation, as you did again. Thanks to all of you. I'm sure the information will be appreciated. My newspaper readers' comments:

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have a few suggestions for "On My Own." She should contact a social worker at the hospital where her doctor works. As you pointed out, many people have this problem, and I bet the social worker will have some solutions.

Second, there is probably a nursing school nearby. She should contact the dean of students to find out whether a nursing student would be available and would like to earn some extra money in this useful way.

JACQUELINE, R.N., NEW YORK

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: This is one of the many jobs home-health care aides are hired and trained for. My mother has worked for an agency and has accompanied many clients—seniors and younger people—on doctor and hospital visits. Many businesses that advertise "senior care" also provide services to non-seniors with disabilities, temporary health issues, and people who just need a "friend" for a few hours.

There are also volunteer organizations that provide similar services, although some may not have training or appropriate insurance or be bonded by the organization, as many home-health care businesses do.

ALEXANDRA IN PITTSBURGH

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Many senior centers offer this service for medical appointments and procedures. The drivers are covered by insurance and are trained on customer service techniques. My husband has taken many people for this procedure. He typically leaves his number with the medical staff, who call him when the patient is ready to be picked up. Rarely do patients need someone at home with them afterward as long as they stay quiet.

HAPPY TO HELP IN IRVINE, CALIF.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: One solution to the problem of not having family/friends available to accompany a single person for a colonoscopy is to trade time. I'll go with you for yours, and you go with me for mine.

RICK IN WISCONSIN

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: There are non-medical in-home care providers in many cities such as Seniors Helping Seniors that can provide the transportation and companionship that is needed. Check the phone book under Home Health Care and Services or Senior Citizens Organizations, or search the Web for non-medical in-home care.

EILEEN IN LAKE HAVASU CITY, ARIZ.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Stars align with breast cancer stories in 'Five'

By SANDY COHEN
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

AP

In this image released by Lifetime Entertainment, director Jennifer Aniston, left, executive producer Kristin Hahn and Sony executive Helen Verno are shown on the set of the new Lifetime Original Movie Five, premiering Monday, Oct. 10, at 9:00pm EST on Lifetime Television.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The assignment was a daunting one: Make a TV special that presents five short dramas about breast cancer and isn't a total downer.

Jennifer Aniston couldn't resist the challenge.

The 42-year-old actress had already decided to devote a year to producing and directing when she learned about "Five." Just over a year later, the film is set to premiere Monday on Lifetime, and Aniston is pinching herself over the whole thing.

"It was a very nerve-wracking thing to think OK, we're going to tell five short stories about breast cancer that are poignant, that are informative, that are moving and that are funny somehow," she said.

"Five" stars Patricia Clarkson, Rosario Dawson, Tony Shalhoub, Jeffrey Tambor and Jeanne Tripplehorn, among others, and features an equally all-star roster of directors that includes Aniston, Demi Moore and Alicia Keys in her directorial debut.

Aniston said she was "way more involved in this than any other thing I had my name on" and is beyond delighted with the results.

"I'm proud of it. I'm honored that we were able to be such a part of it and I just can't wait for people to see it," she said. "Making a film that's special is wonderful, but when it's actually dealing with a cause and dealing with something that attention needs to be paid to, that's just something that fills you in such a way that it's indescribable."

After signing on as executive producers, the first order of business for Aniston and her production partner was to come up with the various stories and a format for telling them. Aniston called up "Friends" co-creator Marta Kauffman, who conceived of a story arc comprising five short films, each focusing on one woman facing a breast cancer diagnosis.

"I call it a film in five films," Kauffman said. "I wanted them deeply interconnected and to feel like it was all one."

The result is five standalone fictional films with recurring characters, settings and themes. The multi-story format is ideal for exploring the impact breast cancer has on women, their families and their relationships, Kauffman said, because there are so many stories to tell.

"You can't tell one story and have it reach as many women, and on the other hand, you don't want too many because, in many ways, there is a universality to the experience," she said. "We took different aspects of the experience—what it does to your sexuality, how feeling like you're going to die helps you live, how it can heal a family—because the bottom line is it's an experience that women go through, and there needs to be something that holds it together. ... And it's always fun to think of a new way to tell stories."

"Five" opens with Moore's short film, which tells the story of Charlotte (Ginnifer Goodwin) and her young daughter, Pearl. It is 1969, and as the extended family watches the historic moon landing on TV, little Pearl wants to know why her mother is lying alone in bed and her father is smoking nonstop on the porch.

The second film, directed by Aniston, shows Pearl (Tripplehorn) has grown up to become an oncologist. One of her patients is Mia (Clarkson), whose breast cancer diagnosis two years earlier inspired her to spend all her money, give away all her belongings and hold a mock funeral. Then she learns her disease is in remission.

"I just loved the idea of this woman being told that she has a death sentence and she finally decides to start living her life because she's been given a death sentence, and then she's given another chance," Aniston said. "The theme of it just really spoke to me, about living in the moment and just being aware, and also hope about how things can change."

Pearl is also treating Lili (Dawson), a high-powered professional reluctant to compromise her independence and let her family support her through her cancer treatment. Keys, who directed the installment, said she was drawn to Lili's story because "she was more in my age range. I understood her dynamic and I understood her being a strong woman who has to carry everything on her shoulders."

The musician said she "fell in love with the entire process of directing" and plans to do it again, citing Barbra Streisand among her inspirations.

The fourth film is about Cheyanne (Lyndsy Fonseca), a 26-year-old exotic dancer whose livelihood and marriage are threatened by her breast cancer diagnosis and resulting double mastectomy.

Veteran filmmaker Penelope Spheeris directed the piece, and she said "it was the best shooting experience, filming experience, I have ever had."

"I had never worked on a show where all the people in control were women," she said. "Everybody was doing it for the right reasons and egos weren't getting in the way."

"Monster" writer-director Patty Jenkins closes "Five" with the story of Pearl's own diagnosis.

"To sum up the whole thing and try to punctuate it is something that I always love to do," Jenkins said.

The final film shows the oncologist becoming the patient and eventually joining the survivors, which include her previous patients Mia, Lili and Cheyanne.

Aniston called the film "a beautiful study" and hopes it finds an audience beyond typical Lifetime viewers.

"I think kids should watch it, husbands, boyfriends, everybody," she said. "And what you want them to take away from it is information, hope, inspiration, having been entertained and having that moment of going, 'Oh God, I've got to go get this test. Today.' What are we waiting for?"

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Gabor could leave LA hospital this week

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Zsa Zsa Gabor's husband says the 94-year-old actress is resting after undergoing an operation at a Los Angeles hospital where she also is being treated for an infection. Frederic Prinz von Anhalt said Sunday that doctors at UCLA Ronald Reagan Medical Center successfully reattached a tube in Gabor's stomach that became loose and led to bleeding. The celebrity socialite was rushed to the hospital Saturday. Von Anhalt says Gabor could be sent home within a few days. He says doctors are waiting for antibiotics to take effect on the infection. He calls his wife a "fighter" and says he's "very optimistic." Gabor has been hospitalized repeatedly since falling out of bed and breaking her hip in July 2010. She had a leg amputated in January.

Colorado approves 2 leases for Christo project

DENVER (AP)—The Colorado State Land Board has approved two leases for the artist Christo's proposed Over the River project, which would temporarily suspend huge fabric panels over the Arkansas River. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management is expected to decide this fall on a permit for Christo's proposal. But its preferred alternative, released this summer, sticks closely to the proposal by Christo and his late wife to suspend 5.9 miles worth of fabric over parts of the river. The State Land Board said Friday it approved a five-year, 7.7-acre lease to Christo's team so the project could be built, shown and removed. It approved a 10-year, 130-acre lease with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to create a corridor and habitat for affected bighorn sheep. The leases will generate roughly $26,000 for schools.

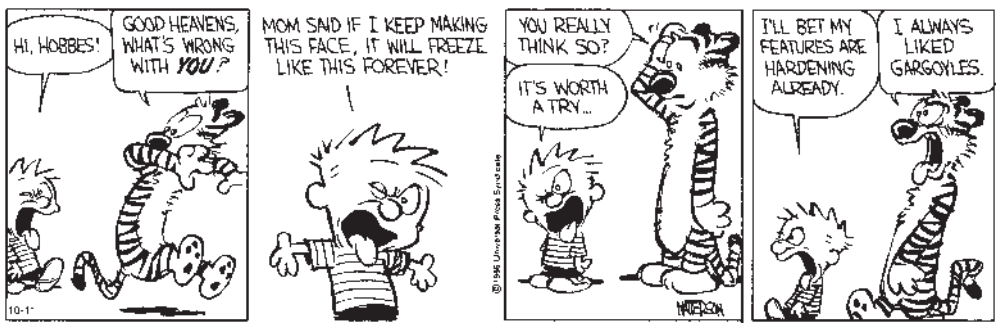
Report: Swiss locate 2 stolen Picassos in Serbia

GENEVA (AP) — Swiss broadcaster SF reports that two stolen Pablo Picasso paintings worth millions of dollars have been found in Serbia. SF cites a Swiss prosecutor saying the oil paintings are in a safe location. Schwyz cantonal (state) prosecutor Charles Faessler told SF in a program aired late Friday that Switzerland has submitted a request to Serbia for the paintings to be returned. He provided no information on the exact location of the paintings or possible suspects in the theft. The works "Tete de cheval" ("Head of horse") from 1962 and Verre et pichet ("Glass and pitcher") painted in 1944 were stolen from an exhibition in the small town of Pfaeffikon, near Zurich, in February 2008. They had been loaned there by the Sprengel Museum in Hannover, Germany.

Pastimes

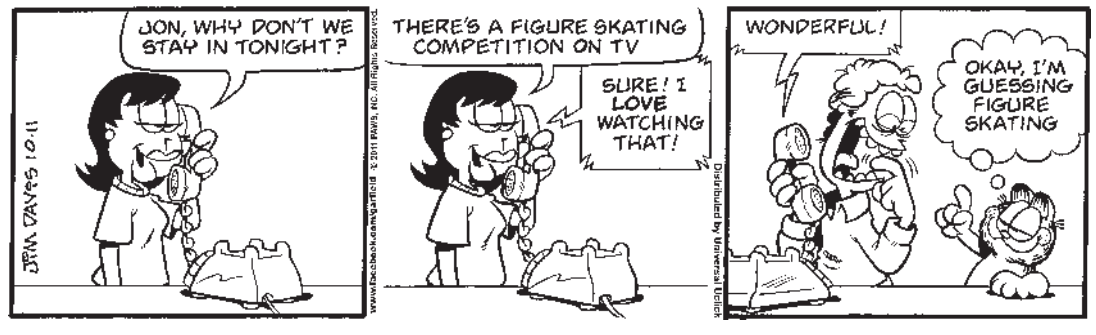
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HI, HOBBES!
GOOD HEAVENS, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
MOM SAID IF I KEEP MAKING THIS FACE, IT WILL FREEZE LIKE THIS FOREVER!
YOU REALLY THINK SO?
IT'S WORTH A TRY...
I'LL BET MY FEATURES ARE HARDENING ALREADY.
I ALWAYS LIKED GARGOYLES.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


JON, WHY DON'T WE STAY IN TONIGHT?
THERE'S A FIGURE SKATING COMPETITION ON TV
SURE! I LOVE WATCHING THAT!
WONDERFUL!
OKAY, I'M GUESSING FIGURE SKATING

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

"CRIME AND PUNISHMENT"? WOW. THAT'S HEAVY FOR A KID YOUR AGE.
I'M EXPLORING THE DARKNESS OF THE HUMAN SOUL... HOW SOMEONE CAN JUSTIFY HEINOUS ACTIONS.
I HOPE TO MAKE A CAREER OUT OF IT.
LET ME GUESS. YOU WANT TO BE A POLICE OFFICER... OR A LAWYER?
PAYDAY LOAN EXECUTIVE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

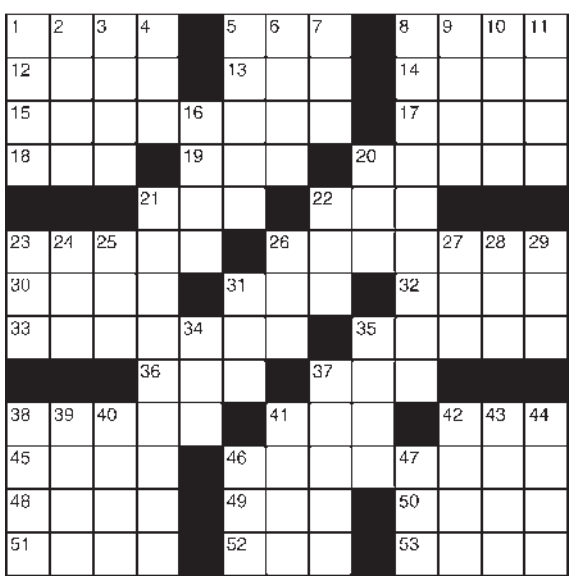
ACROSS
1 Sculpting medium
5 1/6 fl. oz.
8 "— on first?"
12 Tittle
13 — carte
14 Apiary structure
15 Jungle-like
17 Persia, now
18 Shrill bark
19 Cage component
20 Refine ore
21 Cauldron
22 Two, in Tijuana
23 Chef's garb
26 Broadway presentation
30 Authentic
31 14-Across dweller
32 "The Da Vinci —"
33 Like sorcery
35 "Humpty Dumpty — a wall"
36 Yank
37 Aviv lead-in
38 Denude
41 Dopey companion?
42 "I — Camera"
45 Ice cream shop abbr.
46 Upright
48 Sills solo
49 Type measures
50 Bride's concealment
51 Think (over)
52 Sticky stuff
53 Whirling water

DOWN
1 Urban area
2 Actress Loughlin
3 On
4 Mouth, slangily
5 Implied
6 Thick chunk
7 Churn
8 Capricious
9 Employ
10 Elliptical
11 Faxed or emailed
16 Pressing need?
20 "Help!"
21 Governmental
22 Payable
23 Branch
24 Pod occupant
25 Tatter
26 Funnyman Brooks
27 Barracks bed
28 Commotion
29 Author Deighton
31 Satchel
34 Coffee holder
35 Denomination
37 Human trunk
38 Con game
39 Via, for short
40 Disturb
41 Showroom sample
42 Scored 100 on
43 Hotel staffer
44 Partner in crime
46 — out (relax)
47 "— Got a Secret"

Solution time: 21 mins.

N	A	M			E	B	B		T	A	P	S
O	B	I	T		T	O	R		A	G	U	E
V	E	R	A		A	T	E		X	E	N	A
A	L	E	X	A		H	E	L	D			
			I	N	K		D	E	E	P	E	N
B	L	A	D	D	E	R		A	D	O	R	E
A	I	D	E		G	O	D		U	N	I	X
S	M	A	R	T		D	E	S	C	E	N	T
K	E	R	M	I	T		W	I	T			
			I	C	O	N		P	I	X	E	L
U	F	O	S		T	O	W		O	R	Z	O
S	L	A	T		E	G	O		N	A	R	C
A	U	K	S		M	O	W		Y	A	K	

Yesterday's answer 10-11



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18– only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michelle Trachtenberg, 26; Trevor Donovan, 33; Matt Bomer, 34; Emily Deschanel, 35.

Happy Birthday: Consider your likes and dislikes before you decide to make changes. Add your talents and skills into the mix and you will find a path that suits you. Happiness is the prerequisite of doing the right thing at the right time to best suit your needs. Discover what makes you happiest. Your numbers are 7, 13, 17, 22, 26, 35, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Take a moment to think about what needs to be accomplished. You have to have a routine budget and schedule in place before you begin something that must be completed. Motivation and preparation will guide you to success. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Before you jump to conclusions, go over every detail carefully. It may be you who is overreacting or misinterpreting what's transpired. Emphasize self-improvement instead of criticizing others and you will find yourself much further ahead. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Follow closely when you are dealing with financial or legal matters. Missing vital information can be costly. A chance to advance professionally looks good if you show that you can think outside the box and devise a fresh approach to a service you offer. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): A decision that will force you to deal with relationship issues you've been avoiding should be handled quickly, before matters escalate. Ask for advice from someone with experience and you will have a clearer picture of how you should proceed. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Explore new avenues, try new things and develop your ideas. A change of location will inspire you to make alterations that will be beneficial and contribute to your success. Don't let a personal problem you have with someone hold you back. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Go over any fine details that might need altering. Put pressure on any person or organization that is holding up your plans. Love is in the stars, and doing something special to enhance a relationship will pay off. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Stop procrastinating. Make a decision that will help you stabilize your personal life. Someone from your past will cost you emotionally or financially if you aren't careful. Going back may be tempting, but will also lead to the devastating realization that nothing has changed. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): A challenge will develop in a partnership. Emotional uncertainty will cause a rift between you and someone you love. Speak up and make a commitment before it's too late. A surprise will help you enhance your relationship and stabilize your future. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Welcome change at home and in your personal life. There is much to discover by integrating your experience with new ideas and new ways of doing things. A money matter can be settled and purchases can be made. A change of location will motivate you. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Check out your options before you agree to someone else's demands. Put more credence on home, family and what's important to you. You can enhance a valued relationship by setting your priorities to improve your personal life. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Set goals to achieve and rules to follow and you will win. Settlements, legalities, investments and contracts are all in a high cycle and can pave the way to a brighter future. Tie up loose ends and ease stress that is interfering with your progress. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Make a promise to finish what you start. Your future will depend on the impression you make on others. Advancement can be yours if you are consistent and follow through. Self-deception will be your downfall and honesty your saving grace. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are outgoing, emotional and passionate about whatever you pursue.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

5		4			7	2		9
	2						1	
			9	6				
8				3		5		
		9				6		
		6		9				3
				1	5			
	3						8	
1		5	2			3		7

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/11

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	6	1	4	2	7	5	9	3
9	3	7	5	8	6	1	2	4
2	5	4	1	9	3	6	8	7
3	7	8	9	6	1	4	5	2
5	4	9	7	3	2	8	1	6
6	1	2	8	5	4	7	3	9
1	9	6	2	4	5	3	7	8
4	8	5	3	7	9	2	6	1
7	2	3	6	1	8	9	4	5

Difficulty Level ★ 10/10

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MONGOOSES Solution: 8 letters

M	B	R	S	T	P	R	H	P	C	R	A	B	S	S
A	A	E	S	H	E	A	U	U	O	S	R	G	T	E
M	B	D	H	G	A	O	N	P	A	U	N	U	A	I
M	O	E	A	A	R	G	T	S	T	O	N	E	N	C
A	O	E	R	G	V	I	G	I	L	T	Y	C	D	E
L	N	F	E	R	A	I	E	Y	R	S	A	E	E	P
T	S	T	S	I	S	S	O	O	D	K	R	I	R	S
R	U	U	M	Z	G	N	C	R	R	L	G	(E)	L	P
U	R	O	A	Z	G	S	I	A	M	L	(L)	I	K	S
I	V	N	L	L	E	B	D	G	R	(O)	D	E	N	T
S	E	S	L	E	E	K	E	T	(H)	I	U	I	M	T
T	Y	R	E	D	N	E	L	S	O	T	N	N	G	S
I	T	S	A	F	O	R	E	P	A	W	S	G	D	E
C	S	T	I	U	R	F	P	A	C	T	I	V	E	N
L	I	Z	A	R	D	S	T	R	I	P	E	D	S	D

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Active, Altruistic, Baboons, Behavior, Birds, Coat, Crabs, Dark, Dens, Dig, Eager, Eggs, Escort, Fast, Feeder, Forepaws, Fruits, Gray, Grizzled Fur, Group, Hole, Hunt, Lizards, Long, Madagascar, Mammal, Mound, Nest, Night, Nuts, Pounces, Prey, Pups, Ringed, Rodent, Shaggy, Share, Skill, Sleek, Slender, Small, Smell, Snap, Snout, Species, Stand, Striped, Survey, Tails, Vigil

Yesterday's Answer: Bieber

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

---

2 br. furnished apt. near MHS with AC in a quiet area off Texas Rd. 24hrs water & washer/dryer, ceiling fans in all rooms. $475, water included. Call Ed 788-6268/235-0409.

EMPLOYMENT

8 Janitors & Cleaners. Salary-$5.05-$5.50/hr. MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. Email resume to: admin@mtosaipan.com

---

2 Generator Techinician. Salary-$5.05 - $14.00/hr. Elliott Systems LLC. Email resume to: jeff@elliottsystemsllc.com

---

Job Vacancy Announcement

JAGUAR LIMITED DBA. CLUB MERMAID

1 GENERAL MANAGER
Qualifications:
- 3 - 4 years work experience
- College graduate or college level with Management Course.
- Responsible for establishing goals & objectives for the operation
- Has excellent sales and marketing executions
- Ability to control profit & loss with business analysis
- Salary $7.00/hr

1 BARTENDER
Qualifications:
- At least 3 – 5 years experience
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Salary $5.05/hr

1 SUPERVISOR
Qualifications:
- 3 – 5 years work experience in Bar/Night Club operation
- Preferably College Graduate or College level.
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Salary $5.05/hr

15 WAITRESS
Qualifications:
- At least 21 – 25 years old with pleasing personality.
- 2 – 3 years experience as a Waitress in a bar or in an Entertainment Business.
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Salary $5.05/hr

5 SINGERS
Qualifications:
- At least 21 – 25 years old with pleasing personality.
- 2 – 3 years experience as a Singer in a Karaoke Bar or in an Entertainment Business.
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Salary $5.05/hr

Please mail your resume to PMB 697 BOX 10000 Saipan, MP 96950 Contact our Office at Tel.: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT-WINCHELL'S DONUTS

a. 1 vacancy for **Store Manager**. Wage range $7.50 per hour and up, depending on qualifications. College level. Must have at least 5 years of continued experience in managing bakery or similar operations. Must be able to manage 15 or more people and more than 1 store. Must be computer literate. Must know how to operate a cash register or POS system. Able to converse in basic Japanese or other foreign languages highly preferred.

b. 3 vacancies for **Store Supervisor**. Wage range $5.25 to $7.50 per hour depending on qualifications. College level, or an equivalent of at least 4-5 years of continued experience in supervising bakery operations. Must know how to operate a cash register or POS system. Must be customer-service oriented. Must be computer literate. Must be confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Able to converse in basic Japanese or other foreign languages highly preferred.

c. 8 vacancies for **Sales Associates**. Wage range $5.05 to $5.25 per hour. High school level, or an equivalent of at least 4-5 years of continued experience in sales. Must know how to operate a cash register or POS system. Must be customer-service oriented. Must be computer literate. Must be confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Must be able to read, write and speak basic English. Able to converse in basic Japanese or other foreign languages highly preferred.

d. 6 vacancies for **Donut Makers/Bakers**. Wage range $5.05 to $5.25 per hour. High school level, or an equivalent of at least 3 years experience in baking. Knowledge in operating a cash register or POS system preferred. Must be customer-service oriented. Must be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Must be confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Must be able to read, write and speak basic English. Able to converse in basic Japanese or other foreign languages highly preferred.

Additional requirements: All applicants must be of good health and good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to provide current police and court clearance, must be able to obtain health certificate, must have a reliable transportation and must agree to a drug test.

Please get application forms and submit them at our Winchell's Garapan location from 8am to 12noon or email them to dennys@guam.net

EMPLOYMENT

3 fishermen bottom, trolling and diving. 6 mos. experience, minimum salary. Send resume to SFC P.O.Box 10005 Saipan, MP 96950

1-General Manager $1,800.00-$ 2,500.00/mo. Bachelor's Degree in Accounting or BA. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1–Accountant $ 7.25-$ 13.00/hr. Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1–Real Estate Appraiser $7.25 - $11.00/hr. Must be Licensed General Appraiser. PSG Professional Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1 General Manager $2,000.00-$2,500.00/mo. At least 5 years experience . Dae Dong Corp. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1 Accountant $7.25 - $12.69/hr. Bachelors Degree in Accounting or BA. Pacific Dev. Inc. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

1 Travel Guide $7.25-$8.92/hr. At least 5 years experience. Pacific Dev. Inc. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT

1 Tour Guide Salary - $7.25-$8.00/ hr. At least 5 years experience. Pacific Dev. Inc. Email resume to psgspn@gmail.com

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1–Automotive Electrician. Salary$5.05-$8.25 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Estimator. Salary $1,200.00 - $1,824.00 per month. Civil Engineer / Estimator degree required. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Construction Supervisor.Salary $5.05 - $8.52 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Salary $5.05 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

2–Project Engineer. Salary $1,200.00-$3,000.00 per month. Civil Engineer/ Project Engineer College Degree required. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1 –Welder. Salary $5.05 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Accountant. Salary $1,200.00-$2,250.00 per month. College Degree required with 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Painter. Salary $ 5.05 per hour. Minimum of 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

4–Heavy Equipment Operator. Salary $5.05 - $6.75 per hour. Minimum of 5 years experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

1–Architect. Salary $1,200.00-$2,250.00 per month. College degree required with 5 yrs. experience. Email resume to saipan@aicconstruction.com

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2-Farmer, 1 yr Aquaculture experience preferred. Call (670) 287-1170 or send resume to Matsumoto Trust at P.O. Box 5057 CHRB Saipan, MP 96950.

ASC Construction is looking for 1-Project Manager-$16.92/hr.-$17.00/hr. Must have Bachelor's Degree in Engineering. Min. 10 years experience as Project Manager. Mail resume to PMB 885 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950. No phone calls please

ASC Construction is looking for the following (1) Bookkeeper, (1) Carpenter, (1) Electrician, (1) Plumber, (3) HE Operator. Interested applicants must mail their resume to PMB 885 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950. No phone calls please.

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(2) Assistant Managers, (4) Supervisors. At least two years experience as Asst Manager or Supervisor. Must have valid HACCP Certification or equivalent Food Safety Training. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmail.com RE: BARNY'S

(2) Bookkeepers. At least 2 yrs experience in food service business accounting. Knowledgeable in PIII Acctg Inventory & Costing. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmail.com RE: BARNY'S

(2) Stock Clerks. At least 2 yrs experience food service business. Must have knowledge of HACCP Food Industry Safety Procedures. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmailcom RE: BARNY'S

(1) Production Control Coordinator. Must be knowledgeable in setting up computer systems program. Must be HACCP Certified or knowledgeable in Food Safety Industry Grade Process. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmailcom RE: BARNY'S

(3) Cooks, (4) Assistant Cooks, (9) Food Prep Workers. At least 2 yrs experience in Volume Food Production of 500 or more pax. Must have knowledge of HACCP food prep procedure. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmailcom RE: BARNY'S

(12) Cafeteria Food Attendants. Must have knowledge of HACCP procedure in food service. Must have a valid BEH food handler's certificate. No phone calls please. E-mail resume to psgspn@gmailcom RE: BARNY'S

1-Accountant Bookeeper/Computer Operator - $5.05-$5.50 w/ 6 yrs exp & knowledge in Acctng & Taxes. Japanese Foods import/export docs related. Mail resume to SPE Saipan Box 502696 Saipan MP 96950

1–General Manager $910.00/bi-weekly. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fluent in Korean. Fax resume to 234-9796.. Kimco Ent. Inc.

1–Accountant-$5.05 - $5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs. exp in Peachtree/Quickbook Acctng. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimco Ent. Inc.

2–H.E. Operator $5.05 - $5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimco Ent. Inc.

1–H.E. Mechanic $5.05 - $5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimco Ent. Inc.

4–Electrician $5.05-$5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs exp. bldg. electrician. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimco Ent. Inc.

1–Plumber $5.05-$5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimco Ent. Inc.

1–Carpenter $5.05-$5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimco Ent. Inc.

1–Commercial Cleaner $5.05/hr. Min. of 5 yrs experience. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimco Ent. Inc.

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1 Architect. Degree required. 5 yrs exp. Utility residential design ACAD v2011. Send resume to P.O. Box 505339

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1 Sales Representative-With 6 months experience in direct selling of fish, minimum salary. Send resume to SFC P.O. Box 10005 Saipan, MP 96950

1–Accountant. $5.05-12.69/hr. Bachelor's Degree in accounting. 5 yrs working experience. Bring resume to Saipan Community School in Susupe.

1-School bldg maint./repairer. $5.05-8.08/hr. 5yrs experience. College or HS graduate. Bring resume to Saipan Community School in Susupe.

Oprtns Manager $10.00/hr. w/ 5 yrs exp. Excellent knwldg & skills, responsible for the daily oprtns & bldg maint. Do cost estimation & preparation of proposal & negotiation w/ clients. Construction/ Maint. $5.05/hr. w/ 3 yrs exp. Extensive knwldg in masonry, plumbing, electrical & carpentry. Can read blueprint & can work w/o supervision. Able to lift heavy blocks & flexible in work sched. Send resume to maniacop_lydia@yahoo.com. GMA Corp. dba NMI Contructor.

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1 Computer programmer, Sal. $5.05/ hr. min. 4yrs exp. email resume to jikangahn@gmail.com, 235-4485 JJ Brothers Corp.

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1 Gen Manager, 1 Scuba Diving Instructor. $5.25 to $7.00/hr depending on qualification w/ min of 5 yrs exp. Must speak, write & read Japanese. Must be Certified Instructor by PADI. Napori Shoukai Inc. Tel: 322-2320

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1 Electrician $ 5.05/hr & 1 Commercial Cleaner $ 5.05/hr Contact C & H Saipan, Inc. @ 234-7709

1 Building and Grounds Maintenance $ 5.05/hr. Contact Pacific International Marianas, Inc. dba Midway Motors @ 234-7524

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1 Dressmaker (tailoring and custom design) Call Susan Island Style at 285-2906.

Herbarium / Farmer . 5 yrs. exp in growing herbs & masclun $300-500/ mo. Email resume to happydays-saipan@hotmail.com.

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2 All around beautician. At least over 5 yrs experience. Pls call 235-4865 or 788-4865. Brianna Beauty Salon.

1-Commercial Cleaner, $5.05 per hour; 1-General Maintenance, $5.05 per hour. No phone calls please Mail resume to Chalan Kiya Apt. Circle at PO Box 502418, Saipan, MP 96950

1-General Maintenance, $5.05 per hour. No phone calls please Mail resume to Matilde Fejeran at PO Box 502418, Saipan, MP 96950

1-Accountant, $5.05-$6.50 per hour Mail resume to RR & Associates at PO Box 504039, Saipan, MP 96950 or call (670) 233-8391

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1 Administrative/Accounting Clerk, $5.50 to $6.50: Must have more than 5 years experience in accounting work; at least 6 months work experience in public accounting office; at least 4 years work experience in administrative position and exposure working with the company executives; knowledge in Quickbooks, Peachtree, FAS & tax software. Please send your resume at P.O. Box 503198, Saipan MP 96950 (Ernst & Young (CNMI), Inc.)

Northern Mariana Islands RETIREMENT FUND
"Investing For The Future Financial Security Of Our Members"

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT 12-01
Accounting Manager

OPEN: **OCTOBER 11, 2011** CLOSED: **OCTOBER 25, 2011**
Salary Level: **33** FLSA Status: **Exempt**

The NMI Retirement Fund is seeking an experienced and knowledgeable individual to fill the position of Accounting Manager. The incumbent is responsible for the management of the NMIRF Accounting Section and the accomplishment of all of NMIRF's accounting activities including overseeing the preparation of the NMIRF budget and assisting the Administrator in explaining the financial needs of the NMIRF to the Board of Trustees. The Accounting Manager works independently with a high level of discretionary authority and minimum guidance in the management of the Accounting Section.

Interested applicants must submit their **application, resume, educational credentials and police clearance.** The complete package is available from the Fund, located on Capitol Hill, Saipan; or by e-mail through the Fund Administrator. **Mailed and hand delivered packages must be marked "JVA12-01 Confidential," and must have the applicant's name and return address on the outside of the envelope.**

Richard S. Villagomez, Administrator
NMI Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247
Saipan, MP 96950-1247
E-mail: administrator01@nmiretirement.com

Looking for a way to tell everyone about your business?

You're looking at it!

Call 235-6397

WHATZIT Solution: Here We Go Round The Mulberry Bush

Meena's CNMI Corporation
P.O. Box 502147 Saipan, MP 96950

Vacancy Announcement for US workers

1-Seamstress. Salary $5.05/hr

1-Manager. Salary $700.00 plus $100 housing allowance. Call 234-3225.

Email tomastchong@gmail.com or call 888-5748

NANG OCHA ENTERPRISE
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) BUILDING/GROUND MAINTENANCE: FULL TIME. 3-5 YEARS EXPERIENCE.
(1) ASSISTANT MANAGER: MANAGES AND SUPERVISES BUSINESS OPERATION. MUST BE HONEST AND DEPENDABLE.

Send resume to toncamacho@hotmail.com or call 235-0927.

Sheu's Brothers Holding Co. LTD
P.O. Box 502997 Saipan, MP 96950

Vacancy Announcement for US workers

1-Houseworker, 2-Waitress, 2-Cook, 1-Inventory Clerk, 3-Sales Representative.

2 yrs experience. Japanese/Chinese speaking a plus. Salary $5.05/hr. Call 235-6128. Email tomastchong@gmail.com or call 888-5748.

1-Architect

Degree required, 5yr. experience utility residential design
ACAD v2011 proficient $10-$11/hr
Azuma Ltd. 256-6831

VENTURE TRANSPORTATION CORP

is currently seeking a FULL TIME SALES RENTAL AGENT

Good customer service skills • Energetic & detail oriented • Affluent computer skills • Minimum 2 years experience in sales • Clean driving record • English & Japanese speaking preferred

Fax resume to (670) 532-0801 or mail to P.O. Box 1385, Rota MP 96951

Job Vacancy Announcement

WORLD INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

3 - GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Qualifications:
• At least 2 – 3 years experience in a Commercial Building Maintenance. Preferably in Carpentry and Masonry.
• Full time with flexible working hours
• Salary $5.05/hr

Please mail your resume to PMB 654 Box 10000 Saipan, MP 96950
Contact our Office at Tel.: (670) 233-1545
between 2:30PM to 9:00PM.

American K&W Corporation
PMB 978 BOX 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Vacancy Announcement for US workers

1-Manager Chinese Restaurant
$10.00 per hour

1-Assistant Manager, 8-Masseuse, 3-Masseuse Helper, 1-Waitstaff, 3-Chef, 2-Cook, 1-Kitchen Helper, 1-Cook Helper.
Minimum of 2 years experience.
Knowledge of Japanese & Chinese language a plus.

Call 234-3225.
Email tomastchong@gmail.com or call 888-5748

Vacancy Announcement

1 Operations Manager - $5.75/hr. Minimum 4 years experience with Bachelor's Degree.

1 Sales Manager - $5.75/hr. Minimum 4 years experience with Bachelors Degree or Diploma.

2 Carpet Installers- $5.05/hr. Minimum 2 years experience with High School Graduation or equivalent.

Interested applicants please bring resume & police clearance to Innovation Inc., San Antonio, P.O.Box 504206, or call 235-5547.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

COOK, SUPERVISOR, PURCHASING AND INVENTORY CLERK

QUALIFICATIONS:
• Must have a high school diploma / GED equivalent
• Stamina to work on your feet as needed for 12 hrs shifts
• Be able to lift and carry up to 30 lbs
• A valid Saipan driver's license with good driving record
• 8 – 10 yrs experience in food service preferred

Please contact Mr. Merchant Thompson at cel: 1-907-9570070 or 1-670-789-4609

Job Vacancy Announcement

JAPAN ENTERPRISES CORP. DBA CLUB MICRONESIA

15 DANCERS
Qualifications:
- At least 21 – 25 years old with pleasing personality.
- 2 – 3 years in Dancing experience especially Cultural and Variety Dance Skills
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Salary $5.05/hr

10 WAITRESS
Qualifications:
- At least 21 – 25 years old with pleasing personality.
- 2 – 3 years experience as a Waitress in a bar or in an Entertainment Business.
- Full time with flexible working hours
- Salary $5.05/hr

Please mail your resume to P.O. Box 502589 Saipan, MP 96950 or Contact our Office at Tel.: (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM to 9:00PM.

Julian S. Calvo, Jr. dba Electronix Shop
Vacancy Announcement

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN

Must be a High School graduate with TECHNICAL COURSE or College DEGREE. Salary minimum, 5 – 10 years work experience required. Knows how to repair, troubleshoot, and diagnose broken computer box for vhehicles. To repair or maintain Industrial Electronics such as Programmable Logic Control (PLC) or small Man Machine Equipment (MME) and all related electronic items.

Please apply in person. Bring your resume or call Julian S. Calvo, Jr. at 483-2994/789-1823

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Caregiver /Housekeeper/ Office Maintenance

Duties: Home office & residence maintenance. Monitor daily medications, prepare meals and do laundry for senior citizen and proprietor.

Requirements: at least 5 years experience in giving care to a person with disabilities, housekeeping experience a must.

Open to U.S. Citizens call 322-2393 from 8am – 5pm (Mon-Fri)

Fermina Camacho Apartments

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

General Manager (1 position) $2,500 per month
- Knowledgeable in electrical products, retail/wholesale stores procedures to include: quotations, sales, payments, materials ordering, receiving, warehousing, and distribution.
- Familiar in electrical materials pricing in CNMI, including latest electrical products
- Must have knowledge in Point of Sales system and have experience in managing store/maintenance staff
- Have experience in importing/exporting electrical products, via air or shipping (Guam, Korea, USA)
- Have experience dealing and negotiating with customers and suppliers
- Must be bilingual (English & Korean Language), with at least 5 years work experience as Procurement Manager

Bidding Manager (1 position) $1,800 per month
- Knowledgeable in Project Contracting Activity Standards such as; Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), USACE, NAVFAC, CNMI Procurement, CNMI ARRA
- Knowledgeable in International Construction Standards; NEC, EM 385-1-1, OSHA, CNMI, and local government laws.
- Have ability to detailing project scope of works and requirements
- Have ability to read and analyze electrical plans, wiring diagram, layout, and technical specifications
- Knowledgeable in project estimate and project schedule (BOM/BOQ, labor cost, equipment cost, material specifications, etc.)
- Must be Licensed Electrical Engineer, with at least 5 years experience in Federal Project Contracting Activity

Assistant Office Manager (1 position) $5.05 per hour
- Have experience in preparing bank and other government agencies documents, lease agreements, monthly billings, collection reports, bank reconciliation, wire transfers requests, online transactions, and all other correspondences with vendors and customers
- Have experience in renewal of business licenses, permits, filing of various tax returns;
- Have experience representing company when dispute arises (CUC, Tax & Revenue, Zoning, and Division of Customs)
- Must be proficient in Peachtree Accounting software. Knowledgeable in accounting system (payroll, receivable/payable, withholding taxes, FICA tax, BGR tax, annual corporate tax, 1040 tax and all other types of tax required from a corporate company)
- College graduate, with at least 5 years experience in accounting system, office management and administration

Computer Programmer (1 position) $5.05 per hour
- Experience in computer system (networking, programming), CCTV system, and communication system
- Knowledgeable in troubleshooting of hardware and software system, and data files security measures
- Knowledgeable in Point of Sales software system, record of sales, stocks inventory, data base, and networking
- Familiar in sales operations, stocks inventory, receiving, distribution, and delivery to project sites
- Must be bilingual (English & Chinese Language), with at least 5 years experience in Computer Programming/Networking

Electrical Maintenance Supervisor (1 position) $5.05 per hour
- Experience in building inspection, maintenance, repair, safety measures, housekeeping and waste management
- Ability to handle tenants maintenance work request (electrical, plumbing, mechanical, carpentry, and others)
- Knowledgeable in OSHA and CNMI environmental laws
- Familiar in maintenance tools and equipment, building materials and appliances, and equipment spare parts
- Must be bilingual (English & Chinese Language), with at least 2 years experience in building management system

Electrician (2 positions) $5.05 per hour
- Knowledgeable in electrical system installations in accordance with NEC and local government standards
- Knowledgeable in electrical product sales, stocks inventory, receiving, distribution, and delivery to project sites
- Have experience dealing and negotiating with customers and suppliers (product quotation, usage, benefits)
- Knowledgeable in electrical market conditions, product innovations, and competitor's products prices.
- Must have driver's license, with at least 5 years experience in electrical installation and product sales

Carpenter (1 position) $5.05 per hour
- Have experience in construction building repairs and maintenance (carpentry, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, and others)
- Familiar in OSHA and CNMI environmental laws
- Knowledgeable in using maintenance tools and equipment (carpentry, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, and others)
- Familiar with stocks inventory, receiving, distribution, and delivery to project sites
- Must have at least 15 years experience in construction and building maintenance, repairs, and installation

Interested applicants may send resume to hongeei@pticom.com. No phone call please.

HONG ELECTRIC ENTERPRISES, INC.

HAFADAI BEACH HOTEL
P.O. BOX 500338 SAIPAN, MP 96950-0338 • TEL: (670) 234-6495 to 98 • FAX: (670) 237-2529

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Open Date: September 29, 2011 **Close Date: October 5, 2011**

Position: (1) Manager, Sales & Mkgt.
Salary: $2,500.00 monthly
Job Qualification: AA Degree / College Graduated / (10) Years Experience. Japanese Speaking.

Position: (1) Asst. Manager, Sales & Mkgt.
Salary: $1,850.00 monthly
Job Qualification: AA Degree / College Graduated / (10) Years Experience. Korean Speaking.

Position: (1) Executive Chef
Salary: $2,350.00 monthly
Job Qualification: College Graduated / (10) Years Experience. Japanese Speaking.

Position: (1) Sous Chef
Salary: $1,850.00 monthly
Job Qualification: College Graduated / (10) Years Experience.

Position: (1) Supervisor, Reservation
Salary: $8.00 per hour
Job Qualification: minimum AA Degree / College Graduated / (5) Years Experience. Japanese Speaking.

Position: (2) Supervisor, Front Desk
Salary: $8.00 per hour
Job Qualification: minimum AA Degree / College Graduated / (10) Years Experience. Japanese Speaking.

Position: (1) Supervisor, Dining Room
Salary: $7.60 per hour
Job Qualification: College Graduated / (5) Years Experience. Chinese Speaking.

Position: (1) Asst. Manager, Maintenance
Salary: $1,850.00 monthly
Job Qualification: College Graduated/Mechanical Engineer (5) Years Experience.

Position: (3) Accountant
Salary: $5.05 per hour
Job Qualification: AA Degree / College Graduated / (5) Years Experience.

Position: (1) Clerk, Front Desk
Salary: $5.05 per hour
Job Qualification: High School Graduated (5) Years Experience.

Position: (9) Waitress/Waiter
Salary: $5.05 per hour
Job Qualification: High School Graduated / (5) Years Experience. Preferably Japanese Speaking.

Position: (8) Cook
Salary: $5.05 per hour
Job Qualification: High School Graduated (10) Years Experience.

Position: (3) Electrician
Salary: $5.05 per hour
Job Qualification: High School Graduated / (10) Years Experience.

Position: (2) Building General Maintenance
Salary: $5.05 per hour
Job Qualification: High School Graduated / (10) Years Experience.

For more information you may contact Mr. Juan I. Tenorio, Manager for Human Resources Department at (670) 234-6495/8 ext. 5840/2.
Employment application forms are available at Hafadai Beach Hotel, Human Resources Department.
AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

CALVARY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
FOR THE FOLLOWING OPENINGS

Administrative Assistant

MUST HAVE
- Computer skills and be proficient in Microsoft Apps
- Strong general record keeping background & experience
- Student record keeping experience
- A minimum of 3 years experience in bookkeeping
- A clear understanding of Federal and CNMI tax laws
- A minimum of 3 years financial management experience
- The ability to prepare financial reports
- Effective communication skills with parents and students

Salary: $950.00 per month

Elementary Teacher

MUST HAVE
- A minimum of 3 years experience teaching upper elementary
- A strong background in and experience with Abeka Book Curriculum
- A Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education

Salary: $1,500.00 per month

Grounds Keeper and Maintenance

MUST HAVE
- At least a high diploma
- Ability to maintain large scale grounds and building operations
- Basic skills needed in general maintenance and repair
- Experience in overall industrial grounds maintenance
- Experience in overall industrial building maintenance

Salary: $890.00 per month

Cook

MUST HAVE
- Strong background in culinary skills
- Large scale meal preparations skills
- Dietary management skills
- Kitchen management experience
- Industrial kitchen experience

Salary: $828.00 per month

INDIVIDUALS APPLYING FOR AND WORKING IN THE ABOVE POSITIONS MUST

1. **Adhere to all church and school policies**
2. **Submit to the doctrinal beliefs of the church and school**
3. **BE ACTIVE and FAITHFUL MEMBERS OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**
4. **Provide his or her own housing, food, and transportation**

Interested applicants can come to the school and pick up an application.
Applications and resumes must be received before October 19, 2011.
Completed applications must be submited to Calvary Christian Academy in Chalan Kiya, Saipan
For further information please call 234-6026

A Northern Mariana Islands Social Service

Shelter Worker – Limited Term

The shelter worker's primary responsibility is to provide a safe and supportive environment for all shelter residents. The Shelter Worker works with the residents from the initial point of contact on issues of crisis intervention, domestic violence education and specific short-term goals to make the resident and her children physically and emotionally safe. Shift work is required.

Responsibilities:
1. Conducts initial intake, crisis counseling, and orientation with new shelter residents and conducts exit interviews with residents leaving the shelter.
2. Documents significant information and encounters with residents in the client folder in a timely and accurate manner. Maintains documentation of shift case notes for each resident, as well as bed and meal counts.
3. Provides crisis intervention and emotional support as necessary and information and referrals to other services providers and resources.
4. Provides empowering support to residents experiencing discipline problems with children, including education about non-violent methods. Promotes positive resident interaction, offers conflict resolution during disagreements and educates residents about positive communication.
5. Supervises all shelter activities, including cooking, clean-up and children's bedtime. Supervises family time and offers activities that promote healthy and positive interactions.
6. Implements any emergency procedures when necessary and conducts periodic safety drills.
7. Conducts weekly and monthly security checks of building and site as assigned.
8. Reports noteworthy information during shift changes and in the daily Shift Report log.
9. Documents any shelter maintenance and supply needs and reports them to the Shelter Manager.
10. Authorizes, supervises and documents childcare arrangements among residents.
11. Provides assistance and supervision to volunteers as needed.
12. Participates in all program staff meetings, in-service trainings and required conferences and meetings.

Qualifications:
- High school graduate and one year of related experience.
- An understanding of the issue of domestic and sexual violence and sensitivity to the plight of battered women.
- Crisis intervention, problem-solving and advocacy skills.
- Knowledge of housing, financial, legal , health and transportation resources.
- The ability to communicate both orally and in writing in a clear and concise manner.
- The ability to work with people of various ethnic, racial and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- A valid driver's license.

A Northern Mariana Islands Social Service

Shelter Worker / Victim Hotline Coordinator

The Shelter Worker / Victim Hotline Coordinator will be under the general supervision of the Shelter Manager. The employee will oversee the 24 hours, seven days a week crisis hotline program and provide supervision and assistance to hotline volunteers, as well as to assist with daily operations of the shelter.

Duties & Responsibilities
I. Victim Hotline Administration:
   a. Make sure all Victim Hotline phone equipment is operational.
   b. Maintain current records of spending on Hotline accounts. Submit all necessary requests and supporting document as required by Karidat and the Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA).
   c. Oversee collection of confidential daily call logs of calls made to the Hotline, tabulate call logs for monthly/quarterly reports.
   d. Submit monthly and quarterly reports required by Karidat and CJPA Regarding Hotline activities and accomplishment of stated goals.
   e. Develop proposal for funding continuation.
   f. Cover the Hotline whenever no volunteer is available.
II. Victim Hotline Public Awareness:
   a. Develop advertisements for the Victim Hotline.
   b. Develop and maintain different community outreach awareness programs, such brochures, posters, media captions, etc.
   c. Establish working relationship with different agencies to promote awareness of the Victim Hotline services.
   d. Make presentations to various groups to promote awareness.
III. Shelter Worker:
   a. Conducts initial intake, crisis counseling, and orientation with new shelter residents and conducts exit interviews with residents leaving the shelter.
   b. Documents significant information and encounters with residents in the client folder in a timely an accurate manner. Maintains documents of shift case notes for each resident, as well as bed and meal counts.
   c. Provide crisis intervention and emotional support as necessary and information and referrals to other services providers and resources.
   d. Provides empowering support to residents experiencing discipline problems with children, including education about non-violent methods. Promotes positive resident interaction, offers conflict resolution during disagreements and educates residents about positive communication.
   e. Supervises all shelter activities, including cooking, clean-up and children's bedtime. Supervises family time and offers activities that promote healthy and positive interactions.

Qualifications
- High school graduate and one year of related experience
- An understanding of the issue of domestic and sexual violence and sensitivity to the plight of battered women.

NEW POSITION

DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION – SAIPAN
Has an opening for an
Accountant or Accounting Clerk

For established small business
Must demonstrate understanding of accounting controls
Responsible for daily, weekly and monthly sales reports
and bank and credit card reconciliation
Daily and shift auditing
Responsible for maintaining G/L and preparing month end P&L
Prepare payroll and Qtrly Tax reports
Must demonstrate excellent Word and Excel skills
Experience with Quick Books and ACCPAC accounting programs

Must demonstrate ability to communicate effectively in English
Able to adhere to and meet reporting deadlines

Full Time Employment
5 years accounting experience
On island References & Police Clearance Required

Applications must be submitted by Saturday October 15th.
Fax Resume to 670-321-1668
or Call 670-287-7037

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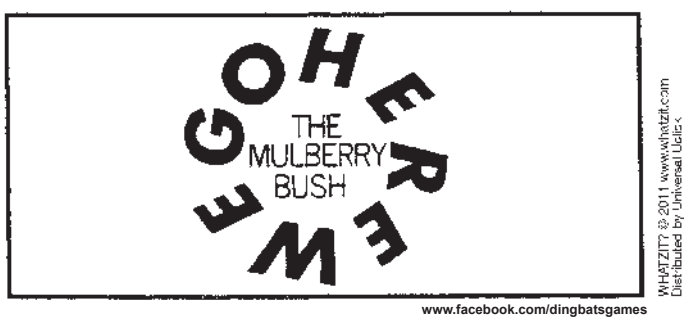

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Raiders beat Texans day after Davis' death

HOUSTON (AP)—The Oakland Raiders won the day after owner Al Davis died, beating the Houston Texans 25-20 on Sunday behind Jason Campbell's two touchdown passes.

Michael Huff intercepted Matt Schaub's pass in the end zone on the final play to secure the win. Coach Hue Jackson dropped to his knees on the sideline, covered his face with his hands and cried as his team celebrated the bittersweet victory.

Sebastian Janikowski kicked four field goals, and Oakland survived a wild finish to improve to improve to 3-2.

Stadiums around the league observed a moment of silence before the early games to honor Davis, who died at his Oakland home at age 82. The Raiders wore black decals on the backs of their helmets with "AL" written in silver letters.

Patriots 30, Jets 21

In Foxborough, Massachussets, BenJarvus Green-Ellis ran for a career-high 136 yards and two touchdowns.

Tom Brady had another strong game, completing 24 of 33 passes for 321 yards and one touchdown as the Patriots scored at least 30 points for the 13th straight regular-season game.

Meanwhile, New York's Mark Sanchez had another tough one, passing for just 166 yards against the team that entered with the NFL's lowest-ranked defense. One week earlier, he threw for 119 yards in a 34-17 loss at Baltimore.

Bills 31, Eagles 24

In Orchard Park, New York, Fred Jackson had 196 yards from scrimmage and linebacker Nick Barnett had two of Buffalo's four interceptions.

After scoring on a 31-yard interception return in the second quarter, Barnett sealed the victory by grabbing Michael Vick's tipped pass intended for Jason Avant with 1:49 remaining at the Bills 26.

Jackson scored on a 5-yard run and finished with 111 yards rushing in helping the Bills (4-1) match their best start since 2008.

Packers 25, Falcons 14

In Atlanta, Aaron Rodgers threw for 396 yards and a pair of touchdowns to lead unbeaten Green Bay back from a sluggish start.

The high-scoring Packers (5-0) trailed 14-0 early in the second quarter and were held without a touchdown in the first half by Atlanta (2-3), which was trying to make up for an embarrassing 48-21 loss to Green Bay in the playoffs last season.

Saints 30, Panthers 27

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Drew Brees found Pierre Thomas wide open on the right side for a 6-yard touchdown with 50 seconds left to lift New Orleans (4-1)

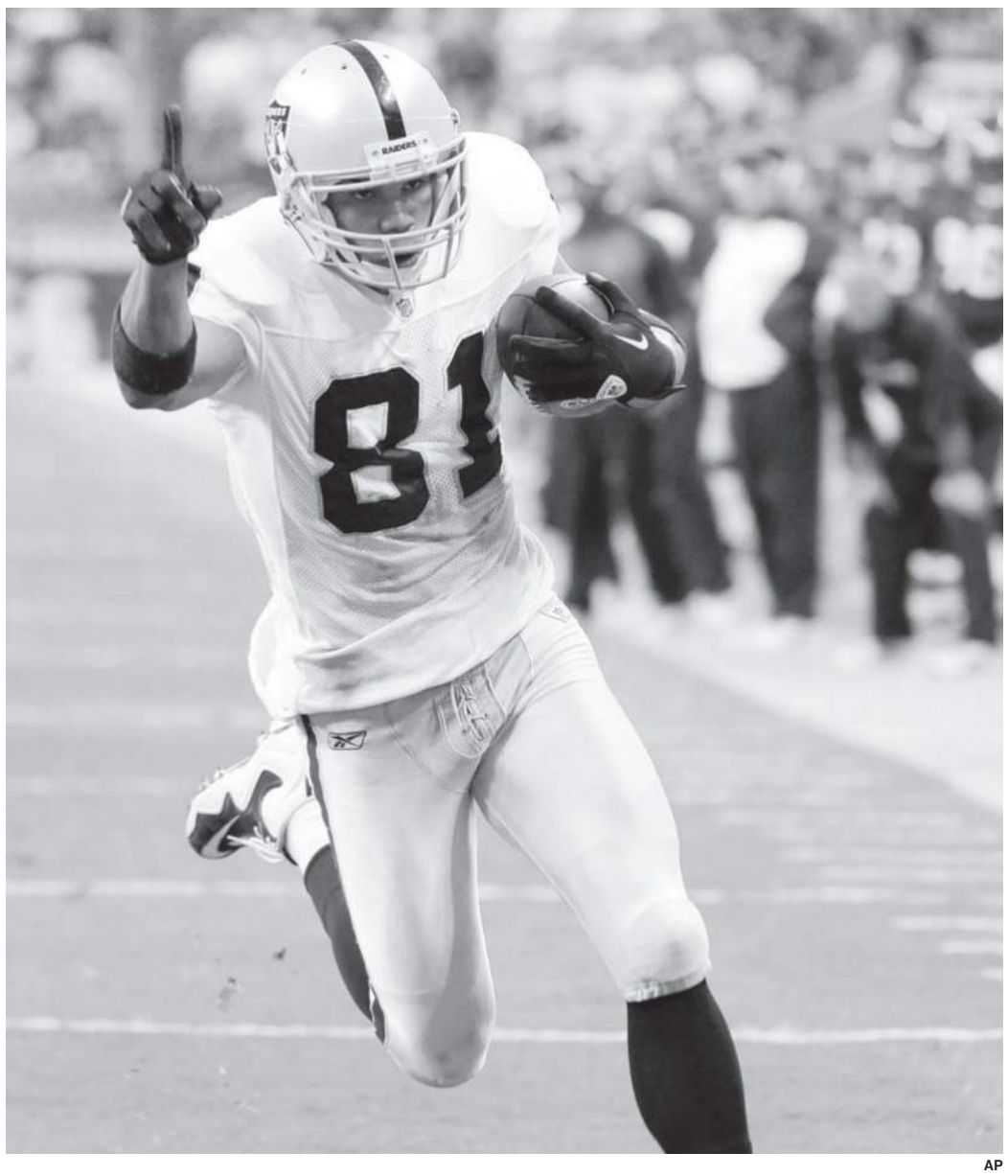
Brees threw for 359 yards and two touchdowns, including a nearly flawless final drive in which he completed 8 of 9 passes for 80 yards to take back momentum after Cam Newton and the Panthers (1-4) had taken their first lead early in the fourth quarter.

The Saints' defense finally sealed the win, letting the Panthers reach only midfield before Newton's desperation heave downfield fell incomplete for the game's the final play.

Chargers 29, Broncos 24

In Denver, Philip Rivers overcame an interception and a fourth-quarter fumble to lead San Diego despite Tim Tebow's best efforts to rally Denver from a 16-point deficit.

Tebow threw for one touchdown and ran for another after replacing Kyle Orton to start the third quarter, and had one final shot for the win before his pass fell incomplete in the end zone on the final play.



AP

Oakland Raiders wide receiver Chaz Schilens runs across the goal line for a touchdown against the Houston Texans in the fourth quarter of an NFL football game Sunday, Oct. 9, 2011, in Houston.

Nick Novak kicked five field goals and Ryan Mathews ran for a career-best 125 yards for San Diego, which takes a 4-1 record into its bye week.

49ers 48, Buccaneers 3

In San Francisco, Alex Smith threw two of his three touchdown passes to Vernon Davis, Frank Gore ran for a score in his second straight 100-yard rushing game for San Francisco.

Carlos Rogers returned an interception 31 yards for a touchdown and tight ends Davis and Delanie Walker each caught TD passes of 20-plus yards in San Francisco's third straight win since blowing a late lead in a Sept. 18 overtime loss to the Cowboys.

The 49ers are 4-1.

Seahawks 36, Giants 25

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, backup quarterback Charlie Whitehurst threw a go-ahead 27-yard touchdown pass to Doug Baldwin, and Brandon Browner returned an interception 94 yards to clinch Seattle's win.

Whitehurst, who replaced the injured Tarvaris Jackson in the third quarter, led the Seahawks (2-3) on an 80-yard TD drive, which he capped with his pass to a wide-open Baldwin with 2:37 left on a play that the Giants (3-2) seemed to stop after defensive end Osi Umenyiora jumped offside.

Chiefs 28, Colts 24

In Indianapolis, Matt Cassel threw for 257 yards and four touchdowns as Kansas City scored the final 21 points against winless Indianapolis.

Dwayne Bowe and Steve Breaston each caught two TD passes to give the Chiefs (2-3) their first win at Indianapolis. The 17-point comeback matched the biggest in team history.

With the injured Peyton Manning watching from the sideline, Curtis Painter had a brilliant first half. He was 12 of 17 for 237 yards with two TDs and a quarterback rating of 152.2 as the Colts (0-5) built a 24-7 lead.

Steelers 38, Titans 17

In Pittsburgh, Ben Roethlisberger tied a team record with five touchdown passes—including two to Hines Ward.

Other than a slight limp when he ran, Roethlisberger appeared to have no issues with his sprained left foot, also hitting Mike Wallace, Heath Miller and David Johnson for scores as the Steelers (3-2) ended Tennessee's three-game winning streak.

The five TD passes tied a single-game team record Roethlisberger already shares with Mark Malone and Terry Bradshaw.

Vikings 34, Cardinals 10

In Minneapolis, Adrian Peterson powered in for three first-quarter TDs to build a lead large enough even Minnesota (1-4) couldn't lose it.

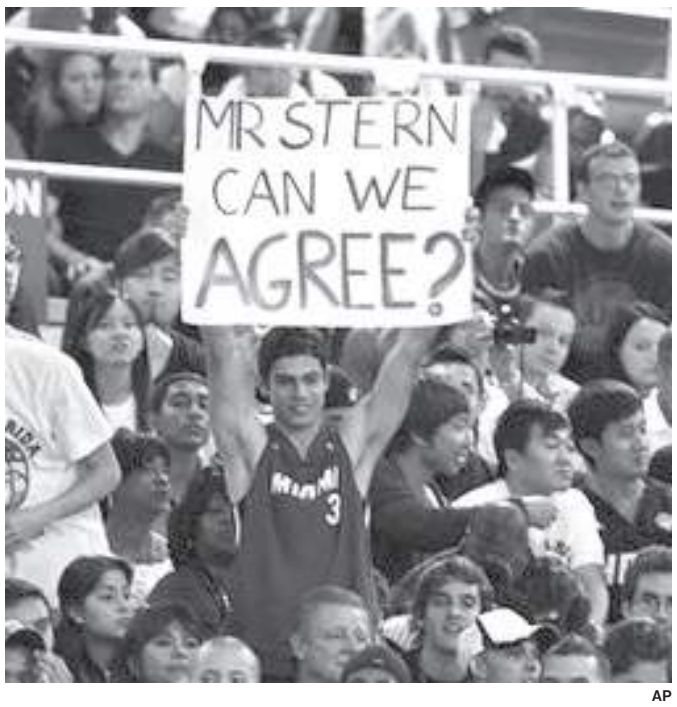
Peterson rushed 29 times for 122 yards and Donovan McNabb jogged in for a score, too, as the Vikings (1-4) made it 28-0 less than 12 1/2 minutes into the game.

Bengals 30, Jaguars 20

In Jacksonville, Florida, Andy Dalton threw two touchdown passes, Bernard Scott scored with 1:56 remaining for Cincinnati (3-2).

The Bengals took advantage of Matt Turk's 22-yard punt into the wind to set up the winning score, a touchdown needed because Mike Nugent missed an extra point in the first half.

Dalton hooked up with Jermaine Gresham on a fourth-and-6 play to keep the short drive alive, then found Andre Caldwell for an 8-yard gain.



AP

A fan holds up a sign referencing the NBA lockout during the first half of the South Florida All-Star Classic NBA basketball game in Miami, Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011.

No NBA deal headed into deadline day

NEW YORK (AP)—NBA players and owners still have no deal headed into the deadline for starting the season on time.

Negotiators for the sides met for more than five hours Sunday before breaking for the night. They are scheduled to return Monday afternoon.

"We're not necessarily any closer than we were going in tonight, but we'll be back at it tomorrow and we'll keep putting time in," union president Derek Fisher of the Lakers.

If they can't come to a deal then, Commissioner David Stern has said the first two weeks of the regular season will be canceled. It is scheduled to begin Nov. 1.

Neither side offered any specifics, but a person with knowledge of the talks told The Associated Press that they did not discuss the split of revenues, perhaps the biggest issue dividing them. The person was granted anonymity because the details were supposed to remain private.

When they last met on Tuesday, league officials asked the union if they would consider a 50-50 split of basketball-related revenues. The players, guaranteed 57 percent under the previous collective bargaining agreement, rejected that and said they were not prepared to go below 53 percent.

The salary cap system is the other big issue remaining.

Fisher also said the union would postpone a regional meeting scheduled for Monday in Los Angeles so he and other officials could remain in New York for more talks.

"We feel like our time, and our guys would want our time, to be used in meeting and try to get closer to getting a deal done," he said. "So instead of going forward with that meeting, we're going to put it off and then we'll reschedule it accordingly depending on what happens tomorrow and into the week if we continue to meet."

No further talks had been expected this weekend. On Friday, a person close to the union told AP players had been seeking a session before the deadline, but were told it came with a precondition of agreeing to the 50-50 revenue split.

The NBA later confirmed it wasn't prepared to move above a 50-50 split but still was open to discussing other issues, but that the union had declined.

Stern, Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver, owners Peter Holt of San Antonio and Glen Taylor of Minnesota, and senior vice president and deputy general counsel Dan Rube met with union executive director Billy Hunter, Fisher and vice president Maurice Evans of the Wizards, and attorneys Jeffrey Kessler and Ron Klempner.

Stern wouldn't comment on Sunday's talks beyond saying they would meet again Monday, adding they had an agreement with the players not to provide any details.

Brewers rally to beat Cardinals in NLCS opener

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Even before the first pitch, the Milwaukee Brewers took a swing at the St. Louis Cardinals.

Come Sunday, the Brewers swapped their barbs for bats—and just kept bashing.

Needing a comeback in the NL championship series opener, Milwaukee turned to its power duo of Ryan Braun and Prince Fielder, then got a clutch hit from Yuniesky Betancourt to beat the Cardinals 9-6.

The Brewers celebrated wildly as the big hits came during a rapid-fire rally.

"It's the playoffs, bro," Fielder said. "You've got to let it all out."

Braun launched a two-run, 463-foot homer in the first inning and added a two-run double during a six-run burst in the fifth. Fielder hit a two-run homer and the typically light-hitting Betancourt added a two-run homer to cap it.

The midgame turnaround came so fast that the crowd wasn't done cheering Braun's big hit when Fielder went deep.

"I don't even know if I heard the ball come off Prince's bat," Brewers manager Ron Roenicke said. "I knew it was a good swing and came off nice, but when you can't hear the ball, the sound of it, because of all the people yelling. I wasn't sure what was going to happen there until I saw the ball flight."

At least for one game, the bitter NL Central rivals avoided any on-field confrontations in their first postseason matchup since the 1982 World Series.

That's despite an already tense atmosphere that gained some steam when Brewers starter Zack Greinke let it slip on Saturday that some of his teammates don't like the Cardinals' Chris Carpenter—a comment that drew a stern rebuke from Cardinals manager Tony La Russa.

Greinke hinted that he heard a few comments from the Cardinals' dugout Sunday, but he said it was nothing out of the ordinary.

"They're yelling from the dugout some, but most teams do that," Greinke said. "Everyone always makes fun of me grunting when I throw a fastball. It's kind of funny sometimes, but no big deal."

The atmosphere was tense even before the first pitch, as La Russa was showered with boos during pregame introductions. He calmly tipped his cap to the crowd.

La Russa said afterward that he hoped the tension wouldn't overshadow the competition—although he said he had a sense that some fans and media members would be disappointed if there aren't any repeats of the on-field confrontations the teams have had in the recent past.

"I don't want our players and their players to be egged on, and I don't think they will," La Russa said. "We're going to play as hard and good against each other as we can."

Greinke struggled at times, but reliever Takashi Saito got Cardinals star Albert Pujols to ground into a key double play in the seventh. Francisco Rodriguez pitched a hitless eighth and closer John Axford threw a hitless ninth for a save.

Game 2 is at Miller Park on Monday night. Shaun Marcum starts for the Brewers against Edwin Jackson.

AP

Milwaukee Brewers' Yuniesky Betancourt reacts after hitting a double during the seventh inning of Game 1 of baseball's National League championship series against the St. Louis Cardinals Sunday, Oct. 9, 2011, in Milwaukee.

"We'll come back out," Cardinals star Lance Berkman said. "The same thing happened to us in the first game against Philly. We were able to regroup."

David Freese hit a three-run homer off Greinke in the fourth, and the Cardinals led 5-2 in the fifth.

But Milwaukee made it tough on Cardinals starter Jaime Garcia, who left after giving up Fielder's homer. Garcia, who hit Fielder with a pitch earlier in the game, gave up six runs and six hits in four-plus innings with three walks. He took the loss.

Greinke earned the win despite his uneven outing, giving up six runs and eight hits in six-plus innings. He left the game to a standing ovation after giving up a leadoff single to Rafael Furcal in the seventh.

The Cardinals took a three-run lead into the fifth before Garcia allowed a leadoff single to Corey Hart and a double to Jerry Hairston Jr. Braun hit a two-run, ground-rule double to right and with the crowd still saluting him, Fielder hit the first pitch from Garcia deep to right for a two-run homer, giving the Brewers the lead.

Fielder then showed off his repertoire of celebrations, giving the team's "Beast Mode" gesture upon his arrival at home plate and exchanging mock knockout blows with Braun as he trotted back to the dugout.

That was it for Garcia, who left with no outs in the fifth and his team down 6-5. It that wasn't the end of trouble for the Cardinals, though.

Reliever Octavio Dotel fielded Rickie Weeks' grounder and threw the ball away, allowing Weeks to go to second on the error.

Betancourt—who batted .252 in the regular season with 13 homers—then sent a 2-1 pitch from Dotel deep to left, where it flew into the Brewers' bullpen and was fielded on the fly by Milwaukee bullpen catcher Marcus Hanel. Hanel pumped his fist, Betancourt circled the bases and the crowd continued its inning-long eruption.

Betancourt has taken plenty of criticism this season, but might be among the rare group of athletes who say they don't pay attention to the critics and actually mean it. Through an interpreter, Betancourt said he manages to avoid criticism because he doesn't speak much English.

"I don't really pay attention to what the critics say," Betancourt said.

With the score 8-5, Pujols came to the plate with runners on first and third and no outs in the seventh. Pujols broke his bat on a double-play grounder—a run scored, but the Brewers had limited the damage.

Betancourt doubled in the seventh and scored on a single by Jonathan Lucroy.

The Brewers and Cardinals split an 18-game series evenly this season, a sign of what has been one of baseball's most intense rivalries in recent years. The Cardinals' success against the Brewers in the final month of the season was one of the main reasons they climbed back into playoff contention.

St. Louis won six of its last seven games against Milwaukee, including a three-game sweep at Miller Park.

The animosity between the two teams spilled into this week, when Greinke told reporters Saturday that some of his teammates don't like Carpenter because of his "phony attitude."

La Russa said he got an umpire's warning after Garcia hit Fielder with a pitch in the first inning, right after Braun's homer. But the Brewers said they didn't think the pitch was intentional, and La Russa said the team's recent history probably affects the umpires' attitudes.

"I certainly can't fault the umpire," La Russa said. "But, you know, you can't go out and argue those things, or you get thrown out. I didn't say anything. What I would have said is, if you watched the way Jaime pitched that whole inning, every fastball he threw was in that same area, out away from the right hander or in on Fielder. They just looked bad, but he was just trying to get the ball somewhere near the glove."

Molder wins longest playoff at CordeValle

SAN MARTIN, Calif. (AP)—Bryce Molder knows better than most that there's no sure thing in golf.

That wasn't the case when he left Georgia Tech nearly a decade ago after being an All-American all four years. And it certainly wasn't the case Sunday at the Frys.com Open in the longest playoff of the year on the PGA Tour.

Molder captured his first tour victory by making a 6-foot birdie putt on the sixth playoff hole to outlast Briny Baird.

"It's a little surreal right now," Molder said.

Molder and Baird were stuck in time, going from the 17th hole to the 18th hole in three cycles, matching birdies and pars, both players feeling at various points that they were going to win.

Three times, Molder hit driver on the 284-yard 17th hole over the water and had eagle putts for the win, each one a little closer to the hole than the previous one, all of them sliding by the side of the cup.

On the fourth extra hole, Baird felt like a winner when Molder drove into the hazard. Molder was able to get to the front of the green from the junk, while Baird's wedge hit the top of the flag and spun back some 12 feet. He missed.

After nearly two hours, Baird blinked and Molder finally made a putt to win.

"You practice and work, and you just hope there's some validating behind it," said Molder, who won in his 132nd start on tour. "I don't feel I deserved to win. But I happened to settle myself down to play."

The playoff was packed with plenty of drama, and so was the rest of the sunny day at CordeValle.

Tiger Woods managed to make news when a fan ran toward the seventh green as he was putting and tossed a hot dog in his direction. The 31-year-old man was arrested and never came close to Woods.

"I guess he wanted to be in the news," Woods said. "And I'm sure he will be."

It was the 17th playoff this year on the PGA Tour, setting a record dating to the modern era that began in 1970.

Baird looked like a winner when he chipped in from short of the 17th green for eagle in regulation to take a one-shot lead. In the group ahead of him, Molder rolled in a 12-foot birdie putt on the 18th to close with a 7-under 64, which got him into the playoff.

Baird, 0 for 348 in his 12 years trying to win on tour, shot a 4-under 67. He twice had birdie putts on the 18th in the playoff to win, missing from 8 feet and 12 feet.

They finished at 17-under 267, and then looked as though they would never finish.

"Obviously, it's more than disappointing right now," Baird said. "I thought I'd be standing where Bryce is. I had my chances. Given a chance, you've got to make putts."

If there was a consolation for Baird, he earned $540,000. Baird, who started his year with conditional status on tour, was at No. 148 on the money list and now is assured of getting his card back for next year.

Bud Cauley, the 21-year-old who turned pro this summer, shot 66 and finished third to earn $340,000, which looks as if it will be enough for him to earn a card next year without having to go through the qualifying tournament.

It was the second straight week that a player won for the first time after a long drought. Kevin Na won in Las Vegas after 210 tries. Molder was regarded as a sure thing when he left Georgia Tech, but nothing comes easily on the PGA Tour. And as he found out in fading sunlight, noting comes easily in a playoff.

Woods had three rounds in the 60s for the first time in more than a year on the PGA Tour, although he finished 10 shots behind in a tie for 30th. In a year lost mainly to left leg injuries, it was his ninth and final tour start.

Cauley left Alabama this year to turn pro, and it appeared to be a smart decision. He is projected to be the equivalent of 114th on the money list with two tournaments remaining. He at least gets into the McGladrey Classic next week. Cauley would be only the sixth player since 1980 - and the first since Ryan Moore in 2005—to earn a full PGA Tour card without ever going to Q-school.

Cauley was among five players tied for the lead at some point in the final round. As usual at CordeValle, this tournament was always going to be decided over the final four holes, which offer to eagle possibilities with the par 5 at No. 15 and the tees moved forward on the 17th, making it play 284 yards over the water.

Shane Bertsch surged into the lead alone with an eagle at No. 15 to reach 15 under, only to miss a short putt on the next hole. He failed to make another birdie and tied for fourth with a 64. Ernie Els also tied for fourth. He went bunker-to-bunker on the 15th and had to settle for par and closed with a 68.

Ultimately, the duel came down to Baird and Molder, two players looking for their first PGA Tour win on a course that tests the nerves because of so many possible swings in momentum.

Molder birdied three of the first four holes on the back nine to take over the lead, and appeared to be playing safe by laying up on the 15th and making par. His 10-foot birdie putt on the 17th spun 270 degrees around the cup.

In the group behind him, Baird reached the 15th green for a two-putt birdie to get within one stroke, then put himself in position for the win with a drive that narrowly cleared the water on the 17th and stayed on the bank.

Trying to get up-and-down to tie for the lead, he chipped in for an eagle—the second straight day he made eagle on that hole—for a one-shot lead. Up ahead, however, Molder recovered by rolling in a 12-foot birdie putt on the last hole to catch him.

SSHS junior varsity defeat MHS in girls caging, 21-12

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Saipan Southern High School Lady Manta Rays junior varsity squad started its Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization basketball season with a 21-12 victory over the Marianas High School Lady Dolphins last Thursday at the MHS Gym.

The Lady Rays held MHS scoreless in the opening 10 minutes and built an early 8-0 lead.

Both teams came out with only a basket in the second quarter as the count shifted to 10-2 at halftime.

Czarina Lizama led SSHS with six points in the first half.

The Lady Rays kept their defensive game plan after the break and shut out the Dolphins again in the third quarter.

SSHS' Merlene Rekesiwang delivered four points in the third quarter to give her team a promising 14-2 advantage, heading into the final period.

MHS nailed a couple of treys in a late rally attempt, but could not climb out of the hole.

SSHS' Lizama and Vanessa Bartolo led all scorers with six points apiece, while MHS' Marlene Lumabi turned in a handful in the loss.

The season continues on Thursday with SSHS taking on Kagman High School. The junior varsity game is set for 4:30pm, followed by the varsity pairing at 5:30pm.

SSHS 21 – Bartolo 6, Lizama 6, Rekesiwang 4, Franciso 3, Lloren 2.

MHS 12 – Lumabi 5, Farro 4, Echavez 3.

Scoring by quarters: 8-0, 10-2, 14-2, 21-12.

Two-way tie in Flame Tree Division

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Chagi Sang forced Bar Gaia's Gaiana-B to scoot over in first chair and make some room for them in most recent results of the Saipan Electronic Dart Association's B-Flame Tree division matchups.

Other division leaders include Master division's IT&E Kamote's of Es'y Kitchen; C-Division's One Shot of VFW Post 3457; Tuesday B-League's Sabalu Boys of D'Pirates; and B-Fanihi's Echoserong Kamote of Naked Fish Bar & Grill.

Chagi Sang mowed down the Skoregazzzums (47-73), 11-4, at Joe's Steakhouse, while co-leader Gaiana-B saved face with a 9-6 home win over D'Pirates' Lucky Dart (59-61).

When the dust cleared both frontrunners came out to identical win-loss slates of 73-47.

In other results, D'Pirates' Sabalu (68-52) knocked off Joe's One Shot (61-59), 10-5, at home and Naked Fish's Na'Gupu (61-59) snuck past Why Not (31-89), 8-7, at Oleai.

Notables include Sabalu's Ray Indalecio posting a 160 High In and Skoregazzums' Joel Tudela a 112 High Out.

IT&E Kamote's defeated Oleai's D'Companeros (61-75), 10-7, at home on Wednesday to improve its win-loss record to 83-53. However, runner-up Es'y' Kitchen's SOS Jokers (81-51) gained a game on its sister team after an 11-6 victory over Oleai Snipers (62-74) on the road. Meanwhile, D'Pirates' M-Destroyers (76-60) romped Jonny's Azkals (45-91), 11-6, at home.

M-Destroyers' Sadiri Martin and D'Companeros' Julius Monton posted 160 High In and SOS Jokers' Jeff Barit marked a 155 High Out in their respective matches.

Also on Wednesday, One Shot absorbed a 7-8 upset to Jonny's Night Hawks (59-61) on the road. One Shot now holds a 81-39 card, however runner-up D'Pirates' Yotsketeh Boys gained a nice chunk of ground on them after an 11-4 victory over sister team Lucky Shot (55-65) in a road draw. Yotsketeh now rests in second by just three games.

Third-ranked Anies Imuza (77-43) bested Naked Fish's Oh! MG (61-59), 9-6, at home in Sand's Bar to stay in the chase; Joe's I Like It (50-70) defeated Bar Gaia's Gaiana-C (38-82), 9-6, on the road; and the Oleai Sparks (65-55) topped Gaia's World-C (44-76), 9-6, at home.

Yotsketeh's Gil Gapor recorded a 152 High In and teammate Buddy Garote a 138 High Out.

Back on Tuesday, the Sabalu Boys lit up the Assashunz (33-87), 14-1, at VFW to improve its record to 98-22. Sabalu is running away from the field with its 21-game margin over the field.

Es'y Kamote's Shawarma Boys (73-47) fended off the Oleai GCC Carpeters (66-54), 8-7, on the road and remains a game ahead of former runner-up D'Pirates' Delubyo.

Delubyo defeated Oleai's Strike Force (52-68), 10-5, at home; Jonny's Dosukebe Boys (55-65) upset D'Pirates' Mixed Blood Shooters 2 (70-50), 10-5, on the road; and Oleai's Ombre Za (54-66) schooled sister team K-1 Snickers (27-93), 10-5, in an away draw.

Ombre Za's Ray Anthony Fitial marked a 160 High In and Dosukebe's Kento Togawa a 113 High Out.

On Thursday, Echoserong's lead atop the Fanihi field fell to six after a 7-8 home loss to Jonny's Sekid (48-72); they now hold an overall card of 76-44.

Meanwhile, Gaia's World B and Es'y's SOS Akiramenai are tied for second place in the eight-team division with identical records of 70-50.

World-B fought off the Dutty Gunz (66-54), 8-7, at VFW and SOS Akirameni downed Oh Yeah! (39-81), 9-6, at Oleai, while Es'y's Kitchen Shooters (59-61) upset Oleai's No Fear (60-60), 8-7, at home.

Notables include SOS Akiramenai's Manny Blas who marked a 160 High In and Dutty Gunz's Norman Camacho who had a 129 High Out in their respective matches.

LITTLE

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There was some confusion at the meeting, as the format of the election was not announced.

The majority in attendance was under the impression that the officers were to be voted in by position at the general election (like last year), however the group only voted in board members with the positions to be decided internally at a later date.

Amend bylaws

Before the election, SLLBI members suggested for some amendments to the current bylaws, which will be discussed by the new board in its upcoming meeting.

Such suggestions included three-year terms for elected board members instead of the current one-year format; restructuring the fundraising system so that the four age divisions can raise funds independently from one another; and annually hosting the CNMI District Tournament on Saipan to save money before the Asia-Pacific Regional Championships.

Expanding the terms was suggested to increase the level of commitment of the officers in an effort to hinder misuse of SLLBI funds.

Breaking up the fundraising pools was suggested in order for each age group to concentrate on determining more accurate budgets.

In the past, the SLLBI used to receive a large lump sum in government funds to pay for the teams competing in the ASPAC. Last year, the CNMI government only provided $10,000 for the teams to travel to the CNMI District event on Rota and did not dish any funds for the ASPAC event held in Guam and the Philippines.

If the amendment goes through, then from here on, the four age divisions would have to fend for themselves in regards to independent fundraising.

Perhaps if enough effort is illustrated, the teams can ask the CNMI government to help provide the remaining balance.

In the past, ASPAC budgets were routinely formulated late and follow up reports were hardly submitted after the events. Past teams also hardly raised any funds independently, which may be a reason the government recently refused funding.

Having Saipan host the CNMI District tournament would be another way for the SLLBI to save money. Saipan, Tinian, and Rota currently take turns hosting the event, however, Saipan has swept the district event for all 15 years of its entirety. The money saved from the travel expenses could be used toward the ASPAC events.

Overall, the assembly had a larger turnout than last season, where fewer than 20 people showed up.

ROLLERS

From Page 28

fensively as they built an early 14-10 edge in the opening eight minutes.

Then a couple of late 3-pointers helped the Rollers stretch it to a 30-24 lead at halftime.

Rollers' John Cenir and John Darag combined for 17 points in the first half, topping the Proa duo of Jason Palacios and Paul Carlo Samson by a bucket.

The Rollers kicked it in high gear after the break and jumped out to a comfortable 14-point margin, 48-34, heading into crunch time.

Proa was contained to just 10 markers in the third quarter, while Rollers hit another pair of clutch treys late in the period.

Rollers' Ralph Francisco came off the bench and delivered eight points in the fourth quarter to help secure the victory.

Darag led the field with 15 points, while Proa's Josephus Aguilar managed 12 in the loss.

In the second match, the Blazers started slow, but still managed a 13-11 lead in the first quarter.

The Blazers' defense established its presence in the second quarter and stuffed Hi-5 to just one field goal as they built a stout 21-13 lead on the other end. Blazers' Travis Eughbanks scored six points in the period.

As the Blazers' starters took a seat at the start of the third quarter, Hi-5 roared back to within a possession, 23-26, with just a quarter to go. Hi-5 shut out the Blazers' bench in the period and allowed just a handful of points when the starters returned to the floor.

The comeback lasted briefly as Blazers center Eughbanks clogged up the middle and showcased a lights-out fourth quarter.

Eughbanks stood heads and shoulders over his competition and denied shot after shot as his guards cashed in on transition layups on the other end.

Blazers' Brandon Aulerio tallied 13 points in the runaway final quarter and finished with a game-high 17 markers in the game; Hi-5's Don Hockett mustered 13 in the loss.

First Game

670 Rollers 63 – Darag 15, Cenir 13, Francisco 12, Nakayama 6, Diaz 5, Suarez 4, Dela Rosa 2, R DLGuerrero 2, Kwon 2.

NMC Proa 48 – Aguilar 12, Palacios 11, Madreo 9, Samson 8, Lapuz 6, Damatan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-10, 30-24, 48-34, 63-48.

Second Game

CK Blazers 51 – Aulerio 17, Torres 16, Eughbanks 9, J DLGuerrero 4, Benavente 3, L Sablan 2.

Hi-5 38 – Hockett 13, Salem 9, F Macahito 4, C. Sablan 4, Atalig 4, Urbano 4.

Scoring by quarters: 13-11, 21-13, 26-23, 51-38.

BID

From Page 28

sembly in Noumea on Sept. 4, NMASA president Michael White said several countries from the 22-member Pacific Games Association inquired about the visa-waiver program.

"Countries like Fiji and Samoa asked if we can guarantee they will be given waivers in case the CNMI wins the bid and they get to come here to compete. Of course, I could not give them that guarantee. So besides economics, I think, future problems in securing a visa made these countries choose Vanuatu over us," White said during the group's monthly meeting last week.

Under the Guam-CNMI visa-waiver program, only the citizens of the following countries are allowed to enter Guam and the CNMI without a visa for up to 45 days: Australia, Brunei, Japan, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, United Kingdom, and Hong Kong. The visa-waiver program is part of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, signed into law by President George W. Bush last May 2009, extending federal immigration laws to the CNMI.

Only Nauru and PNG are the PGA members on the visa-waiver program list.

As for the economics factor, White said most of PGA members found it easier and cheaper to travel to Vanuatu than the CNMI although the Commonwealth offered a much lower per diem at $30 per day against the former's $50.

Vanuatu defeated the CNMI in the second round of the bid contest, 13-9. In the first round, the two countries were tied with eight votes apiece, while Nauru got six.

Twelve of the 22 votes are required for the majority win in the first round of election, but since neither the CNMI nor Vanuatu got it, a second of selection was needed. In the tie-breaker, Vanuatu got five from Nauru's vote, while the CNMI gained only one.

Vanuatu is offering 14 sports for the 2011 Mini Games. The list includes athletics, beach volleyball, football, golf, rugby, table tennis, weight lifting, archery, boxing, cricket, judo, karate, and netball.

ALI'I

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against Mike Olaitiman. Cavite sued for time, but the lull failed to change the complexion of the game, as Ali'i Konflikt wisely used the clock while still hitting timely baskets in the remaining five minutes.

Cavite then threw in the towel at the 1:54 mark with Ali'i Konflikt ahead, 102-83, when Garcia pulled out his starting five. Ali'i Konflikt did the same, giving its second and third stringers the opportunity to finish the game.

Before recalling its starters to the bench, Ali'i Konflikt took possession for four straight times, as they hustled for the loose ball after successive misses. That has been the story for the defending champion as it was quick to run after the ball and all other aspects of their game fell into places, while Cavite was lost and had to rely heavily on Pelisamen.

Pelisamen had a game-high 28 points, but he could not hit baskets in succession as two and sometimes three Ali'i Konflikt defenders hounded him.

John Artates, Pando Muleta, and Peter Camacho also scored in double figures, but were not consistent on offense in the second half. However, the biggest missing link on Cavite's offense was Joy Dayrit, who was held to three points. Dayrit had 14 in their quarterfinals win over the Hoopaholics and averaged almost double figures in the regular season. Cavite's 88 points against Ali'i Konflikt was a far cry from its 127 markers in its 42-point demolition of the Hoops. Cavite had 10 triples against the Hoops, but canned only three versus Ali'i Konflikt.

Ivan Devero paced Ali'i Konflikt with 27 points, while Elmer Esdrelon and Brandon Talania chipped in 18 and 12. All the 11 players Ali'i Konflikt used in the game made it to the scoreboard.

MAFEA/ Ali'i Konflikt 108 – De Vero 27, Esdrelon 18, Talania 12, Tumaquip 9, Barrios 8, Camacho 7, Aquino 5, Mendoza 4, Cruz 4, Guiab 4.

Cavite/Andok's 88 – Pelisamen 28, Artates 14, Muleta 11, Camacho 10, Wesley 9, Olaitiman 6, Llagas 4, Dayrit 3, Umali 3.

Scoring by quarters: 22-24, 53-41, 77-65, 108-88.

Raiders beat Texans day after Davis' death

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Brewers rally to beat Cardinals in NLCS opener

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Ali'i Konflikt returns to finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

No doubt, MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt had Cavite/Andok's numbers in their semifinal match last Sunday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

Days after its quarterfinals victory was tainted with controversy, Ali'i Konflikt defeated Cavite convincingly, 108-88, to earn the second finals seat in the UFO Inter-Organization Basketball Friendship League 2011 Bud Cup.

Ali'i Konflikt, which pulled off a 79-77 triumph over Vis-Minda/Satbahi off J.R. Barrios' contentious layup in the last .5 second to move into the semis, will defend its title against unbeaten Proa tonight at 8pm.

The championship will be a one-game finals.

Cavite and Ali'i Konflikt felt each other out in the first quarter before the former began throwing jabs in the next two periods and then delivered the killer blows in the fourth to knock off its foe.

The opening canto ended with Cavite on top, 24-22, but it slowly lost grip of the lead midway in the second frame when Ali'i Konflikt started speeding up the game. With Ali'i Konflikt running a high-octane offense, it outgunned Cavite in the second canto, 31-17, for a 53-41 halftime advantage.

Cavite held back in its scoring in the second canto with Freddie Pelisamen limited to two field goals after scoring seven points in the first period. No Cavite player made more than two field goals in the second quarter and when coach Boy Garcia turned to his bench, he didn't get a response.

In contrasts, four Ali'i Konflikt players came off the bench and delivered some points for the team in the second period. Ali'i Konflikt's balanced offense continued in the third period, while Cavite played catch up. Garcia's wards managed to move within seven, 65-72, but Ali'i Konflikt closed out the quarter with a 5-0 windup capped by Joemar Tumaquip's buzzer-beating banked triple.

After three quarters, Ali'i Konflikt was still on top by double digits, 77-65, and the lead ballooned to as much as 20 early in the fourth. Ali'i Konflikt had a 10-2 run in the first two minutes of the fourth period punctuated by Tumaquip's floater off a head-and-shoulder fake

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt's Junar Guiab pulls up for a fallaway jumper against Cavite/Andok's Peter Camacho during the third quarter of their semis game in the UFO Bud Cup caging last Sunday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Saipan Little League Baseball Inc. members participate in the general membership election meeting held Saturday at the pavilion behind the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Little League elects new board

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Saipan Little League Baseball Inc. selected its eight-member board of directors for the upcoming 2012 season at their general membership meeting las Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

About 35 people attended the meeting after which Ray Yumul, Juan I. Tenorio, Roman Reyes, Yvonne Tarope Camacho, Annie Flores, Peding Tenorio, Robert Magofna, and Remedios Celis were voted in as league officers.

The new board will meet in a separate internal meeting to determine their positions.

Positions include a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, safety officer, player agent, and managers and umpire's representatives.

The group will also appoint a statistician.

The roles listed above will be announced upon confirmation.

Last year, Robert Guerrero was voted in as president, but resigned just before opening day. Then in an internal meeting, Flores was voted in as president about midway through the season.

Flores conducted Saturday's election and announced that although the SLLBI is currently completely out of funds, she left the organization debt-free.

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WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

CK Blazers' Brandon Aulerio changes direction in midair in an effort to get off a shot around a Hi-5 defender in Friday's U19 Rotary caging at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

Rollers, Blazers advance in U19 playoffs

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Rollers Basketball Club's 670 Rollers and the Chalan Kanoa Blazers triumphed over separate opponents to advance in the Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League U19 playoffs after the conclusion of Friday's double-header at the TSL Sports Complex.

The Rollers routed NMC Proa, 63-48, in the first matchup, while the Blazers held off a late rally by Hi-5, 51-38, in the second pairing.

Five different Rollers chipped in of-

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Uncertainty of visa waiver dooms CNMI bid

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Representative of participating nations meet during the Pacific Games Council General Assembly last month in Noumea, New Caledonia to select the host nation for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games. Vanuatu won over the CNMI and Nauru.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Besides economics, Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association also pointed to the Guam-CNMI visa-waiver program as one of the deciding factors in the selection of the host nation for the 2017 Pacific Mini Games.

Vanuatu won the bid, beating the CNMI and Nauru during the election last month in New Caledonia. Norfolk Island also submitted a bid but withdrew four months before the selection.

Before the selection during the Pacific Games Council General As-

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